MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 OCTOBER 1980

American Hostages

According to Tehran radio, on 26 October the Majlis began debating the Special Commission's report on the hostages issue in closed session following the acceptance of the Majlis in its preceding open meeting of the proposal introduced by a number of deputies to discuss the matter in camera. The radio said those who suggested the closed session were "influenced" by the devastating Iraqi missile attack against the city of Dezful and had submitted their recommendation in "protest" against U.S. "interference" in the Gulf war and "assistance" to the Iraqi Government. However, the radio's Arabic service reported that the assembly also rejected a proposal to "suspend" discussion of the issue. Monitored Tehran media have not reported on the discussion of the hostages issue in the 26 October closed session, but AFP said the Special Commission's "complete report" was read out and discussed. The agency also reported the comments of an unidentified Majlis deputy who said that the four conditions set by Ayatollah Khomeyni "figured" in the report and that the Majlis rejected as "unrealistic" a condition put forward by the students that U.S. forces withdraw from the Gulf. This deputy also told AFP that a demand for a U.S. apology "did not figure among the conditions." AFP cited another unidentified Majlis deputy as saying that the commission's report "faithfully detailed" Ayatollah Khomeyni's conditions.

In the meantime, AFP reported conflicting statements out of Tehran as to if, when and by what method the hostages would eventually be released. On 25 October the agency cited an "official spokesman" who called "completely false" an NBC report that Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i stated that the hostages would be released on 26 and 27 October in "two stages." However, on the same day AFP said that Ayatollah Khomeyni's office had stated that the release of the hostages in "successive groups" is a "probability." The agency also reported on 25 October that five members of the Majlis who had read the Special Commission's report had said that the hostages "might" be released in stages. According to Tehran radio's Arabic service, Musavi Kho'ini, a member of the Special Commission on the hostages, denied an AFP report citing him as announcing that if the United States "agrees to some of Iran's conditions, a number of the hostages will be released sooner." AFP had actually reported him as saying only that the "conditions must be fulfilled before we release the hostages" but that "there is a possibility we could show good will if the United States does the same." According to Tehran radio's Arabic service, Kho'ini stated in his denial of the AFP report that "it is enough for me to say on this subject that the Majlis has rejected any direct or indirect talks with the United States" and went on to question how the "general atmosphere" in the Majlis could be conducive to releasing the hostages "if some of Iran's conditions are accepted while AWACS planes are stationed in the area and U.S. assistance" to Jordan and Iraq is increasing. AFP also cited Kho'ini as saying that the debate could be a "very long one" and in any case will be "very tough." Other unidentified Majlis members told AFP that at least several sessions will probably be needed before a final vote can be taken.

Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, in an interview given after the 26 October Majlis sessions, reported by Tehran radio, said only that "if America observes our just rights and respects our legitimate demands, it is possible for the hostages to be released; otherwise the hostages will be in the same position as before."

Tehran radio reported that the Majlis held a closed session on the morning of 27 October and discussed the hostages issue and the war situation, but it gave no details of the debate. According to the radio, the Majlis will reconvene in camera in the afternoon. AFP reported that if no decision on the hostages is reached on 27 October, debate on the issue will not resume until 29 October, since 28 October is a Muslim holiday on which occasion the deputies are expected to visit Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Hammadi, Tawfiq on U.S. Stance--In a statement to INA, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi said that remarks made by Secretary of State Edmund Muskie on the U.S. administration's "readiness" to supply Iran with arms means that the United States is "standing by Iran's side, not only morally but materially." Hammadi warned that Iraq cannot "stand with folded hands" in the face of such an attitude and announced that it will "consult" with other Arab countries on this "dangerous situation." According to Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses report on this statement, the foreign minister--in referring to the secretary of state's 19 October interview in which, he said, Muskie reiterated President Carter's statement that the United States would "lift the arms and ammunition embargo on Iran in exchange for the hostages"--noted that there was "something more important and perhaps even more serious" in that interview, namely, that the secretary of state "declined to answer the question on whether in exchange for the hostages the United States would give Iran more arms than those already purchased."

In an interview with the Baghdad paper ATH-THAWRAH, reported by INA, Hammadi claimed that the hostages question is an "emotional and temporary issue" and that the United States is trying to establish "serious and cordial relations" with Iran, adding that there are no "contradictions" between the Iranian regime and the aims of U.S. foreign policy.

In an Ankara press conference reported by the Voice of the Masses, Revolution Command Council member Tahir Tawfiq "warned" the United States against using the hostages issue as a "pretext" for "blatant bias" in favor of Iran and for resuming arms exports to Iran. Tawfiq said that if the United States did not stay neutral, Iraq would not remain silent and "U.S. interests would be jeopardized."

Bani-Sadr Protest to USSR--According to KUNA, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr "strongly protested" to USSR Ambassador Vladimir Vinogradov over the Iraqi use against Iran of Tupolev bombers that the USSR had provided to Iraq for use only against Israel. KUNA reported that Bani-Sadr also asked the Soviet ambassador for a "clarification" of the Soviet position regarding the shipment of arms to Iraq through the Jordanian port of Al-'Aqabah and raised the question of the "regular supply of essential strategic information" to Iraq gathered by Soviet aircraft. In response, Vinogradov once again affirmed Soviet neutrality and protested to the president over an earlier Iranian announcement that the USSR had offered to supply Iran with arms. According to KUNA, Vinogradov said that the United States has used this "untrue" report to achieve numerous "gains" and that the repetition of such announcements could cause "ill feelings" between the two countries.

Military Situation--In a 24 October communique carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, the Iraqi General Command announced that the Iranian forces had been "routed" in Al-Muhammarah (Khorramshahr) and that this "immortal victory had been proclaimed by the raising of Iraqi flags throughout the city. Giving more details on the Iraqi claim to have finally taken Al-Muhammarah, the commander of the Al-Qadisiyah forces, Abu ash-Shahid, in a message carried by the Voice of the Masses, said Iraqi troops had completed the comprehensive purging" of the city, were in "complete control" of the bridge linking Al-Muhammarah with Abadan, all roads leading to the bridge and all the buildings surrounding it, and had occupied the governor's mansion. He went on to say that by seizing control of Al-Muhammarah the Iraqi Army had Abadan besieged from all four sides. Following up the communique on the fall of Al-Muhammarah, Defense Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah, according to the Voice of the Masses, contacted President Saddam Husayn and informed him of the "happy news of the purging" of the city, and the Iraqi president, in a message carried by INA, congratulated his troops on "liberating" it. Shortly after the Iraqi General Command announcement, however, the Iranian Supreme Defense Council spokesman told AFP that reports of the capture of Khuninshahr (Khorramshahr)were "completely false." Later that day Tehran radio admitted that Iraqi troops had taken "part" of the city and were "stationed around" the bridge linking Khuninshahr to Abadan, but it claimed that the defenders had prevented the enemy from gaining "control" of the city. Tehran radio on 25 October reported that Iranian forces had regained "a number of critical positions" and held the city's strategic bridge and the governor's mansion but that the bridge was impassable because of heavy Iraqi fire. The radio also announced that the Iranian Air Force was carrying out extensive air

attacks against enemy positions in and around Khuninshahr. Further Tehran radio reports said that street fighting was continuing in the city and that its defenders were "doggedly" resisting Iraqi advances without the benefit of armor or artillery. INA on 25 October reported that Iraqi units east of the Karun River had repulsed an Iranian counterattack.

Baghdad radio reported that Iraqi forces repelled a "helpless" Iranian attempt to regain control of the main roads around Abadan, and Tehran radio said that "intense" fighting is continuing on the Abadan-Mahshahr road and that a "large part" of the city's residential area has been destroyed. The radio also reported that Iraqi MiG's once again bombed Abadan's oil refinery.

Iraqi media have given few details on the fighting on other fronts, but Tehran radio has claimed Iranian successes all along the battlelines, including advances in the areas of Gilan-e Gharb, Mehran and Dehloran. The radio also said Iranian forces stopped Iraqi penetrations along the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin fronts and inflicted "heavy casualties" on the enemy and forced the Iraqis to retreat in the Allah Akbar hills and in the Ahvaz sector. The radio reported that the Iraqis launched a surface-to-surface missile attack on Dezful that left scores of civilians dead and that Shush continues to be subjected to enemy artillery fire. A communique issued by the Iranian Joint Staff, carried by Tehran radio, said the air force attacked Iraqi military targets in Khuzestan and in Iraq itself. General Command communiques, carried by the Voice of the Masses, reported Iranian airstrikes on Al-Faw, At-Ta'mim, As-Sulaymaniyah and Irbil and Iraqi air attacks on military and oil installations in the Dezful, Bandare Shahpur, Abadan, Ahvaz and Al-Muhammarah areas.

Iranian Defense Council--Tehran radio reported that at the close of the 25 October session of the Iranian Supreme Defense Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i said that President Bani-Sadr was appointed president of the council, Prime Minister Raja'i vice president and Khamene'i himself secretary. The Supreme Defense Council was constituted on 12 October. Speaking after the same meeting, Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani said, according to Tehran radio, that the council will henceforth meet twice a week. Rafsanjani also disclosed that the council has decided to "become active in explaining the truth about Iran's policy and establish more contacts with the world."

Shatt al-'Arab Shipping--According to INA, Iraq has agreed to give "all facilities necessary" to foreign ships to sail out of the Shatt al-'Arab waterway. Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ahmad Husayn said neutral vessels will be allowed to leave the waterway provided they fly the Red Cross flag. He affirmed that this decision will not compromise Iraq's "full sovereignty" over the Shatt al-'Arab and said his government's decision has been conveyed to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and the International Red Cross headquarters in Geneva. Iraq had earlier refused to allow neutral shipping to leave the Shatt al-'Arab without flying the Iraqi flag and had turned down a UN compromise that would have allowed those vessels to sail out under the UN flag.

Release of Iranian Diplomats--Tehran radio reported that Iranian Government representations through the United Nations had secured the release from Baghdad of 13 members of the "joint secretariat of Iran and Iraq" and members of their families. The diplomats are now in Kuwaiti en route to Iran.

Mediation Efforts--According to KUNA, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS that the PLO is not mediating between Iran and Iraq. KUNA had reported on 14 October that PLO leader Salah Khalaf had told a Kuwaiti newspaper that the PLO was preparing a peace plan to end the Gulf war.

KUNA also reported that Iraq has asked the EEC to mediate the conflict. According to the agency, the request was made in a letter to Gaston Thorn from Iraqi "Acting Foreign Minister" Hamid 'Alwan.

Egypt

According to MENA, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali announced that Egypt is "following with interest" bills being submitted in the Israeli Knesset to annex the Golan Heights. Ghali stated that such a move would violate international law, nullify UN Resolution 242, "run counter" to the Camp David accords and "destroy" peace in the Middle East. He also said Israeli raids into southern Lebanon constitute a "basic obstacle" to peace. MENA, citing AL-AHRAM, said Ghali is expected to visit Israel in the first week of November to reciprocate Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to Cairo.

Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon arrived in Egypt on 26 October and was welcomed at the airport by President Anwar as-Sadat. This ceremony was carried live by Cairo radio.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported Lebanon's new 20-member Cabinet, expanded from the previous government's 13 portfolios. In the new Cabinet, Fu'ad Butrus remains as deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Joseph Skaf retains the defense portfolio and 'Ali al-Khalil stays as finance minister. Khalid Junblatt replaces Talal al-Mir'ibi as economy and trade minister. The Phalangist Voice of Lebanon reported that two ministers of state in the new cabinet have "rejected" their portfolios. Commenting on the new Cabinet for Voice of Lebanon, Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jummayil said it "is not the one required for the present circumstances" and for tackling Lebanon's problems.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT CONTACTS FOREIGN LEADERS ON ISRAELI ACTIONS

Message to Soviets

NC251155 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar this morning received the Soviet charge d'affaires in Lebanon in the presence of Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], chairman of the PLO Political Department and Brother Abu Hatim, Fatah's official in charge of foreign relations.

Brother Abu 'Ammar conveyed to the Soviet official an urgent message to the Soviet leaders on the Zionist concentrations in southern Lebanon and the Zionist naval, land and air aggressions against Lebanese cities and villages and against Palestinian camps.

Message to EEC's Thorn

NC241829 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar has sent a letter to Gaston Thorn, chairman of the EEC Council of Ministers.

Our correspondent has learned that the letter deals with the Zionist attacks and troop concentrations in southern Lebanon--attacks and concentrations aimed against Lebanese cities and villages and Palestinian camps.

Arab Heads of State

NC251428 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1245 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text of cable sent by Abu 'Ammar to Arab kings and presidents appealing to them to stand by the Palestinian revolution--date not specified]

[Text] Brother kings and presidents, I send you blessed revolutionary greetings. In these delicate and grave conditions through which our Arab nation and the entire Middle East are passing, the Zionist enemy is doubling its brutal air, land and sea attacks against the Lebanese and Palestinian people and the Lebanese cities and villages and Palestinian camps, using modern U.S. military equipment.

The recent military operations against the Ash-Shaqif castle, Kafr Tibnit, Al-Jarmaq and Ar-Rayhan and the criminal raids by his U.S. aircraft, bombs and rockets against the Lebanese and Palestinian civilians and the Zionist naval forces' daily shelling of our camps along the Lebanese coast. [sentence as heard]

In addition the Zionist enemy is forming large military concentrations in the areas of Dayr Mimas, Marj 'Uyun, (Al-Matallah) and Al-Khiyam. The enemy is deploying military equipment, tanks, armored vehicles, artillery and missiles in preparation for large-scale and multi-faceted operations in an attempt to strike the Palestinian revolution forces, the joint forces and the Lebanese and Palestinian people. The enemy thinks that this is an opportune time, given the circumstances in the area, for the enemy to achieve its goals--which it failed to achieve more than once--in liquidating the Palestinian revolution, destroying the Palestinian people's resistance and striking at the Lebanese people's morale. The enemy is now pursuing a scorched-earth policy, relying on the criminal U.S. military machine.

In this difficult and grave time and from this advanced position, the Palestinian revolution forces and the joint forces are not only defending Lebanon and Palestine, but the Arab and Islamic nation with our limited resources and with our great faith.

In these historic moments and under these difficult and serious conditions, I appeal to you to stand by your struggling brothers. They are confronting and resisting the Zionist octopus which is armed to the teeth with U.S. weapons. These strugglers pledge to God, our nation, the masses and people to remain faithful and sincere and to confront the defiance with hearts full of faith and confidence in victory, God willing. These strugglers made their historic decision: martyrdom or victory. It is a revolution until victory.

'ARAFAT PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

For Belgrade reportage on the official visit of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to Yugoslavia, see the Yugoslavia section of the 27 October Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent editions.

'ARAFAT SAYS PLO NOT MEDIATING IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

LD261404 Kuwait KUNA in English 1008 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Oct (KUNA)--Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat reaffirmed Sunday earlier statements that the Palestinian organization is not mediating between Iraq and Iran.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper, 'Arafat said the PLO was trying to stop this war from which all parties, and the Palestinians in particular, are suffering.

Iraqi leaders who insist that other Arabs should define their position towards the prevailing conflict will not accept a (?home-made remedy), 'Arafat told AL-QABAS newspaper.

On the other hand the Iranians said the PLO should support the case of Tehran against what they described as "false Iraqi allegations", 'Arafat said.

'ARAFAT CONGRATULATES WALDHEIM ON UNITED NATIONS DAY

NC241837 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar at noon today sent a letter of congratulations on his own behalf and on behalf of the [Palestine Liberation Organization] Central Committee and the Palestinian people to UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim on UN Day.

The letter was taken by Samir Sanbar, Dr Waldheim's envoy and director of the UN information office in Western Asia. Sanbar had called to inquire about the health of Brother Abu 'Ammar.

Our correspondent has learned that in his letter to Dr Waldheim, Brother Abu 'Ammar mentioned matters connected with the Zionist [troop] concentrations in the south and with the recurring Zionist land, sea and air attacks against the Lebanese and Palestinian people--attacks which have caused many casualties among the citizens as well as considerable damage to property.

KUWAIT

AL-WATAN REPORTS U.S., ARAB EVACUATION MOVES

LD270942 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Oct (KUNA)--Kuwait's AL-WATAN reports today that the United States and some Arab countries, which it did not name, have begun to take steps for the possible evacuation of their citizens from the Gulf countries in case the Iran-Iraq war expands. Quoting sources described as reliable, the paper says that the American and Arab embassies have begun to compile lists of names and addresses of their citizens in order to evacuate them should the area become exposed to danger from the Iran-Iraq war.

SAUDI ARABIA

HABIB CHATTI MEETS WITH LEADERS IN JIDDA

Meeting With King

LD261058 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1015 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Jidda, 26 Oct (SPA)--King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at 1230 today received at the royal court in Jidda, Habib Chatti, the secretary general of the Islamic Conference, in the presence of Second Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guards Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

Foreign Minister

LD261238 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1225 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Jidda, 26 Oct--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal today met with Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization. Discussions during the 1-hour meeting covered the latest developments in the mediation between Iraq and Iran and the organization's role in coordinating with a number of Islamic countries in this regard. The discussions were attended by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary for Political Affairs Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahman Mansuri.

AMBASSADOR SAYS KINGDOM WANTS TO BUY AWACS PLANES

LD270957 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 24 Oct 80 p 1

[Excerpt] Washington--By Fawzi al-Asmar and Bob (Libling)--Saudi Ambassador in Washington Shaykh Faysal al-Hujaylan has stated that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom will try to purchase the four radar planes which were recently sent to Saudi Arabia. Shaykh al-Hujaylan told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom wants to keep the "AWACS" system for the purpose of defending the country even after a solution to the Gulf crisis is reached and that therefore the kingdom will try to purchase these four planes from the United States.

RIYADH REPORTS AL-QADHDHAFI'S MOVES AGAINST MUSLIMS

LD261014 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Harkan, secretary general of the Islamic World League, and Shaykh 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi, minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf, have received cables from Libyan pilgrims strongly denouncing Al-Qadhdhafi's attitude and fabrications against Islam and Muslims.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has issued orders for the imprisonment of all Muslim ulema and imams holding different views. They are being held in various detention centers in the country. The ulema had earlier sent a letter to Al-Qadhdhafi calling on him to retract everything he had said against Islam and Muslims. He refused, however, and directed his anger against the Libyan ulema who dared to express their view of him by ordering their arrest and isolation from any contact with Muslims in Libya.

UAE

OIL MINISTER ANNOUNCES $2-PER-BARREL INCREASE

NC260742 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Oct (ENA)--Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah has announced that the UAE has increased its oil prices by $2 per barrel for both offshore and inland oil fields. In a statement to the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD published today, the oil minister says that this increase is effective as of the beginning of this month, October. He explains that this increase is not related to the present oil market situation and that the increase had already been decided. Dr al-'Utaybah affirms that the UAE will not increase its oil production by more than 50,000 barrels a day.

PDRY

DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON U.S. 'GAME' IN GULF

LD241537 Kuwait AL-HADAF in Arabic 23 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] Aden--by Sulayman Fulayhan--Col 'Ali Antar, PDRY defense minister and Political Bureau member, has asserted that the United States is not alone in the Arab Gulf. In an exclusive statement to AL-HADAF he said the United States knows very well the limits of the game and cannot go beyond them.

Referring to the Iraq-Iran war, Colonel Antar said that neither the Iraqi or the Iranian people will benefit from it, but rather it will serve U.S. interests. He said: "Aden has informed both the Iraqi and Iranian leaderships of its position and appealed to both sides to stop the fighting."

The South Yemen defense minister accused the United States of playing a dangerous game by inflaming the war between Iraq and Iran. He said the United States is trying to enter the area through the inflamed gap between the two countries, and reasserted in a firm tone that the United States must realize that it is not alone in the area and that there are those who are closer to it.

Replying to a question regarding the effectiveness of the AWACS planes which Saudi Arabia recently obtained from the United States in gathering military information from South Yemen, he said, laughing: "The planes are now busy observing the eastern borders." He added: "There are no secrets on either side, because the tank travels on land and can be observed, and an aircraft flying in the sky can easily be detected by sophisticated devices."

The Yemeni defense minister expressed satisfaction at the development of relations between his country and the Soviet Union and said that they are based on mutual respect and joint cooperation against imperialism and Zionism.

NAVON ARRIVES, EXCHANGES BANQUET SPEECHES WITH AS-SADAT

26 Oct Arrival

NC261044 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1014 GMT on 26 October 1980 begins a live relay from Cairo International Airport of the arrival of Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon. President as-Sadat and Mrs Jihan as-Sadat are present to receive the Israeli president and his wife. A 21-gun salute is fired and the national anthems of Israel and Egypt are played and then President as-Sadat and President Navon inspect a guard of honor. Four young children offer bouquets of flowers to President Navon and his wife. President Navon then shakes hands with his well-wishers, who include several Egyptian Cabinet members and the Israeli Embassy staff members. Presidents as-Sadat and Navon then leave for the airport's VIP lounge. At 1037 GMT, Presidents as-Sadat and Navon leave in a motorocade to Cairo.

As-Sadat Speech

NC262150 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2003 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Speech by President Anwar as-Sadat at a dinner banquet he hosted in 'Abidin Palace on 26 October in honor of Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God. My friend President Yithzaq Navon, Mrs Navon and friends: It gives me pleasure to welcome you to the good land of Egypt as messengers of peace and love, advocates of friendship and fraternity between our peoples, and supporters of full understanding between Israel and all the Arab peoples--an understanding that would rectify the march of history and restore the relations among the cousins to their original state of tolerance, coexistence and faith in the common fate of mankind and firm belief that God almighty has taught us wisdom to follow the right path, the path of right, justice and peace. There is no one who is more worthy than us to shoulder this message and discharge this task. We, the sons of Abraham, who are the trustees of a glorious heritage of civilization and progress in an area that is the cradle of the great religions, which achieved for man his greatest victory: the victory of the powers of goodness and knowledge over those of darkness and treacherous ignorance.

These noble meanings came to me a few days ago when I was standing in submission on that pure and honorable spot on the land of Egypt in the holy valley of At-Tur, where God revealed himself to Moses and endowed him with the Bible and with wisdom. The links of the one divine message then followed successively. Christ--may peace be with him--was sent. Muhammad--may God's prayers and peace be with him--came as the last of the prophets and messengers. Muhammad completed religion for us and filled us with the blessing of faith. The divine call came in essence as a call for fraternity among all believers, a call that rejects hatred and rancor forever.

Hence, the believing Egyptian people have called for the building of a religious complex on this unique spot to crystallize the unity of the march along the path of right and guidance, to consolidate the concept of tolerance in our hearts and to symbolize the road of the future, where there would be no enmity, hatred, war or suffering, but pure love, sincere friendship and harmony in the hearts.

On this basis, we struggled, dear friend, with all resolution and determination to establish a just and lasting peace in the area that would restore the rights of all the peoples in the area, safeguard their legitimate interests and give them an opportunity to confront the basic challenges faced by man in this epoch of contemporary history, primarily those of building civilization, the process of full economic and social development and catching up with the successive developments in the revolution of technological and scientific progress.

Briefly, all of us are facing the challenges of the greater struggle, which aims at finding a better world for the coming generations of our sons and grandchildren and at achieving more security, stability and prosperity.

We have covered a long distance on the comprehensive road to peace through the Camp David accords, the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty as well as the exchanged letter on full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza.

We are satisfied with the success which has so far been achieved in the sphere of the normalization of relations between the two countries. We are also determined to continue this process without hesitation. To us, peace is a strategic objective on which there can be no going back, because the real interest of peoples will impose itself on events and prompt all the parties to perceive a major fact which we must not ignore for a single moment; that is, that the great historic developments we carried out have turned the struggle into a commitment of coexistence and good-neighbor relations and into a normal situation between rational states--whose interests sometimes agree and sometimes disagree--but in all cases who act on the basis of faith in the need for coexistence and reject the rash theories advocating the inevitability of conflict.

With the same willpower and persistence, dear friend, we are determined to go forward, to pave the way for a just settlement to the Palestinian issue--based on respect of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, like all other nations and peoples--and to find an acceptable formula for coexistence between the Palestinians and the Israelis, which will serve as a nucleus for wider Arab-Israeli coexistence and will honor the historic and national rights of the Arabs and Muslims in Jerusalem--which must become a symbol of peace and an eternal flame for tolerance and brotherhood.

It is not impossible for us, friend, to achieve all this after the great achievement we have accomplished, which was contrary to all expectations, in matters which were considered impossible.

Let us, friend, place together the cornerstone for this historic reconciliation between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples by establishing genuine self-rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip--which will ensure the transfer of authority to the people who possess the right and land, will safeguard the security of all sides and will ease the tension and anxiety at a time when our area is witnessing many manifestations of explosion, violence and instability.

My dear friend, President Yitzhaq Navon, your visit to Egypt and its people is an historic one in every sense of the word. It represents the first visit by an Israeli president to an Arab country. This is a landmark whose significance should not be ignored by the sons of both peoples. Moreover, it should contribute toward strengthening the friendly and cordial relations between them and should open the door for further contacts on all official and popular levels so that we can build on the firm foundation laid down in cooperation with my two friends, Menahem Begin and Jimmy Carter, fully aware of the huge historic responsibility that has been placed on the shoulders of all of us and fully aware of the broad hopes of the two peoples and the wide horizons of a new era of love and harmony.

Friends, we are proud of this visit which a friend of Egypt and the Arabs is making--a friend who has studied our civilization, culture and the history of our continuous struggle and who has realized that commitment to peace, righteousness and justice is the essence of the struggle to which we are giving priority above everything else. Allow me to ask you to stand in order to salute President Yitzhaq Navon, his wife, our friendly guests, all members of the Israeli people and the relations of friendship and love between the two peoples and two countries. God's peace and mercy be upon you. [Applause]

Navon Speech

NC262258 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2018 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Speech by Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon at a dinner banquet given in his honor by President Anwar as-Sadat in 'Abidin Palace on 26 October--recorded]

[Text] Your Excellency the President of Egypt and your wife, honorable guests: I bring you greetings of peace from the state of Israel, from its peace-loving people and government, which is faithful and will continue to be faithful to the peace agreements of Camp David. We also view peace as part of a comprehensive and overall one that our prophets, in their peace prophecy--the prophecy about Jerusalem and Israel--linked to a world peace among all nations. [above paragraph delivered in Hebrew]

Your Excellency President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Mrs as-Sadat, ministers, notables, and members of the Israeli delegation:

I would like to begin my speech by extending thanks to a great leader of a great people, on my behalf and on behalf of my wife and the Israeli people--Jews and Arabs--for inviting me to visit Egypt. I view this kind invitation as an expression of the sincere desire to add a relative and symbolic brick to the edifice of peace we have decided to establish together in this area, hoping it will be a beacon that will guide all the ships that ply stormy seas on dark nights.

I thank you, Mr President, for your kind and warm speech in which you reinforce what we have seen and sensed since your historic visit to Jerusalem to the effect that the alliance you have made with peace is a genuine one, undeterred by boisterous winds blowing from different directions.

Rest assured, Mr President, that the Israeli people are caring for this tender plant until it grows and becomes a deeply rooted large tree.

The road we have decided to take together is not without obstacles. However, you and Prime Minister Menahem Begin--with the encouragement of President Carter--have covered a long distance. We are all confident that with the wisdom, determination and ability you both enjoy you can remove stone after stone and obstacle after obstacle until the road before us appears paved and straight so that both our peoples can move with confidence and safety.

As for the rest of the people in our area, they will sooner or later catch up with the peace wagon. All the paths they have tried have led to failure.

Mr President, there are volcanoes that lie dormant and erupt. In the past few weeks, one of them erupted again. The events we see on the small screen remind us of what the poet 'Amr ibn Ma'add Yakrib said: At first war is young and appealing to all who are ignorant, but when it rages and becomes hot, it becomes like an old woman without a lover--ugly, head-shaven, and not tasty for smelling and kissing. [laughter and applause]

In this dusty background, our two countries appear an oasis of stability and harmony. We hope that wisdom will prevail, that the conflagration will be put out and that the destruction and the shedding of blood will be ended. It has been proven that the real wealth of the peoples is not hidden in the earth but lies in the wisdom of the leaders who lead their peoples to progress and prosperity on the road of peace.

Mr President, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak next Wednesday to the members of the National Democratic Party leadership who will be meeting under you and to share with them a number of ideas on the relations between our two countries and the political situation as I see it.

Allow me to touch upon some personal matters. I regret that it was not destined for my parents to be alive during these moments which definitely fulfill their dreams.

I remember my mother sitting by the radio many years ago at a late hour of the night listening to the singing of the unforgettable late Umm Kalthum. Since in those days the radio used to give out a whistling and noisy sound, we used to hit it until the captivating voice could be heard loud and clear.

My father planted in me the love of Arab culture not in its abstract concept but in its lively application. My father, may he rest in peace, used to take me with him in Jerusalem to the house of our neighbor, who was a respectable old man, in order to hear their conversation. Coffee used to be served, and they used to converse in amity and sweetness. When they touched upon the subject of British rule, they used to denounce loudly the policy of divide and rule. When the time for the evening prayers came, the old man used to spread a small mat, face Al-Qilblah and say his prayers. My father and I used to stand up and direct our prayers toward the wall of the temple. When prayers were over they resumed their denunciation of British rule.

My father formulated his understanding of matters in this simple expression: Know my son that the Turks ruled here and went, and that the British are ruling now and will go and that only we and the Arabs will remain and we must learn to live together. I was very young, but this expression was engraved on the page of my heart according to the proverb which says: Learning when young is an engraving in stone. We must raise the members of the younger generation in our countries on the values of peace right from the kindergartens so that when they grow up, the idea of peace to them will be a natural thing. It is obvious to me that it is very vital to learn to get to know each other and that the human being is the enemy of what he does not know, because without this knowledge the foundation on which confidence is based will be missing. Confidence is the basis of the peace.

In this respect, permit me to relate to you the annals of an event which is treasured in my memory. In the fourties, I was a student of Arabic and Islam in the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. After 5 years of study, I realized that we had only drunk a small glass from the ocean of Arabic-Islamic culture--a teeming, expansive and deep ocean. However, we achieved success in one thing; namely, we knew how much we did not know.

One morning, the dean of the oriential studies faculty called me and assigned me with accompanying a noble guest from Egypt who was on a visit to the holy land. When I heard the guest's name, I stayed where I was--motionless! The reason is that the guest was Taha Husayn [famous Egyptian man of letters]. May God be gracious to him. We saw in Taha Husayn an intellectual giant and the father of Arab literature and its most outstanding researcher and verifier, whose personality represented a blend of East and West--a personality which was free of any inferiority complex and which would bow to no one.

At his request, we traveled to see a kibbutz; that is, an agricultural cooperative village. Taha Husayn asked questions of the kubbutzniks, and his questions were answered. All the kibbutzniks were people who had changed their professions. Contrary to the rules of sociology, they had moved from city to village. They included physicians, engineers, lawyers and university students. They had willingly chosen to become farmers. In answering Taha Husayn's queries, they explained: We are looking forward to the establishment of a society which guarantees total equality among its members. The reason is that every member gives society as many services as he can and he takes from society in accordance with his needs; that is, there would be no remuneration. We also want to cancel the factor of money as a main incentive for human work. Taha Husayn, may God rest his soul, was surprised.

He asked: Do you intend to change human nature? Do you believe it is possible to build new human beings? They were perplexed by the way the question was asked. Then they answered him: Yes. We look forward to this objective and we believe it can possibly be achieved. At this point, Taha Husayn turned to his wife and whispered a few words in French to her. We toured the kibbutz and saw fields, houses and barns. He asked many questions and heard the answers. Through his perspicacity, Taha Husayn penetrated deep into the very hearts of things; he penetrated much deeper than those whom God has graced with sight.

As we were on our way back to Jerusalem, Taha Husayn stayed tight-lipped all the way. He was absorbed in deep thinking. Suddenly, I heard a thougt, just like someone talking to himself. He said: This arouses interest--considerably! We will see what will happen to this society some 20 or 30 years later. May God rest his soul, had he now been with us, I would have been in a position to answer his question by saying that this society exists and that it is a developed one. Furthermore, numerous societies modeled on this kibbutz have emerged in Israel. When we left the car, he shook hands with me, bade me farewell and said: I invite you to visit Egypt. Come and get to know us closely. I said: Most glady--and at the first available opportunity. Scores of years then passed. They teemed in events which prevented this opportunity from presenting itself. You, Mr President, have accomplished that feat and you have given me this first opportunity for which I was waiting. Therefore, I give you my thanks and gratitude.

Your Excellency, Mr President, for 10 years you have been running the affairs of this good and noble people. You set goals and you seek to attain them. You frequent all the classes of the people, talk to them to inform them of your real intentions in frankness, courage and patience.

You have turned your back on wars and showed your readiness to face the problems of the epoch of peace. You always extend amity. The reason is that you rightfully believe that hatred first hits the hater himself and paralyzes his logic.

On my own behalf and on behalf of my wife and companions I wish you a long life during which you will lead your people in their procession on the path of happiness, prosperity and peace. To you, my lady, the wife of his excellency the president, we express our very best wishes that you will continue with all the goodness, nobleness and humanitarianism, for which you have come to be very well known, to continue to help the many people who stand in need of your efforts and care. These people need your efforts and care which you exert and devote to ensure their good and the good of the whole Egyptian people.

Permit me to toast you, this noble and ancient people, the country of the immortal Nile and peace between the two peoples. To your good health. [applause]

'ALI MAKES STATEMENT ON TRIPARTITE TALKS, EGYPTIAN PAPERS

NC242202 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1820 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has asserted that there must be sufficient and substantive preparation for the upcoming meeting in Washington on 17 November to pave the way for the success of the tripartite summit. He said that the Egyptian and U.S. stands are clear and that Egypt and the U.S. agree on the two main points in differences, namely, Jerusalem and the settlements.

In a statement made this evening following his return to Cairo from Switzerland Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out that the United States, Egypt and Israel each submitted working papers. He said that at present the three papers are being discussed in Washington in preparation for the technical meeting scheduled for 17 November.

He further said that the discussion of the points of agreement and disagreement might need another ministerial meeting in preparation for the tripartite summit.

Commenting on the new working paper on the confidence-building measures Egypt submitted recently to Sol Linowitz, the U.S. presidential representative to the autonomy talks, and the difference between it and the first paper Egypt submitted on 13 October 1978, 'Ali said that after the negotiations and the Egyptian-Israel-U.S. agreement, new points had to be added to the confidence-building measures concerning the Palestinians because of the developments in the West Bank and Gaza. He said that when the peace treaty was signed the issues of the explusion of the West Bank and Gaza mayors and the question of Bassam ash-Shak'ah and Karim Khalaf [Nabulus and Ramallah mayors] had not existed. He said that these issues had to added to the new Egyptian paper.

In his statement 'Ali stressed that Egypt denounces the expulsion of the mayors from the occupied Arab land. He said the land is theirs and is their homeland and the expulsion of any citizen from his land runs counter to the Geneva Convention, the Camp David agreements and all international laws and norms.

Answering a question on the possibility of Republican Party candidate Ronald Reagan winning the U.S. presidential elections and the effect this would have on the autonomy talks, 'Ali expressed his belief that the talks would not be affected much for the simple reason that there is a general consensus in the United States that the Palestinian question must be solved and that peace must reign in the Middle East. He stressed that the Middle East issue would be one of the first priorities if Reagan won the elections.

Regarding the venue and level of the meeting of the tripartite experts committee 'Ali said that the meeting will be held in the area, most likely in Egypt, and at the level of technical experts.

Concluding his statement 'Ali stressed that despite the Iranian-Iraqi war and the interest it is generating, it is only a border disagreement that has been going on for hundreds of years. He said that the Palestinian question is still commanding full attention and that it is an explosive issue which is much greater than the Iraqi-Iranian border war. He said that proof of this is that the tripartite meeting will take place in Washington while the Iraqi-Iranian war is going on.

GHALI REACTS TO KNESSET BILLS ON ANNEXATION OF GOLAN

NC250638 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2238 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA)--Minister of State of Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has announced that Egypt is following with interest the bills being submitted to the Israeli Knesset concerning the adoption of a resolution to annex the Syrian Golan Heights, which Israel occupied in 1967.

In his statement to be published in Cairo papers tomorrow, Saturday, Ghali stressed that this action contravenes international law and nullifies Resolution 242, which bans the annexation of territory, runs counter to the Camp David agreements and destroys peace in the Middle East.

Dr Ghali said that the repeated Israeli aggressions, for various reasons, against southern Lebanon on various occasions constitute a basic obstacle in the way of peace.

AL-AHRAM reports that Dr Ghali is expected to visit Israel during the first week of November in reply to Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to Egypt. The paper says that the date of the visit will be fixed during the current contacts.

Regarding normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations, AL-AHRAM says that a high-ranking delegation will fly to Israel on 4 November to participate in the meetings of the normalization committee, which includes Egyptian and Israeli representatives. The committee will discuss the new measures of normalization, including measures relevant to the Palestinians residing in the occupied land.

SOMALI CHIEF OF STAFF COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN SOMALIA

NC250943 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0804 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 25 Oct (MENA)--Maj Gen Omar Hajj Mohamed, the chief of staff of the Somali Armed Forces, who is currently visiting Cairo, has stated that Somalia will witness some internal developments in the next few days. He added that the Higher Council of the Somali Revolution has been restructured in order to implement the state of emergency resolutions which are in the interests of the Somali people.

The chief of staff added that life in Somalia is normal and that the decision to declare a state of emergency was taken in order to deal with some problems connected with the people's livelihood concerning prices and the emergence of some people who are exploiting the incidents along the borders.

In a statement published by AKHBAR AL-YAWM, the Somali chief of staff said that this decision is tantamount to an internal revolution to reform the course of the Somali revolution, and that the state of emergency was not declared due to internal problems or disturbances, as some allege.

Regarding the border fighting with Ethiopia, Maj Gen Omar Hajj Mohamed said that Ethiopian Forces, supported by Soviet and Cuban forces and some mercenaries, have, since 18 September, been trying to stir up disturbances along the border. They launch their attacks from several directions in an attempt to scatter the Somali forces, but they have not and will not succeed in causing any harm to the borders of the State of Somalia. He added that the Soviet forces are behind the planning of these attacks and this is what they disclosed when news agencies reported the reaction to Somalia's decision to grant facilities to the U.S. forces in the port of Berbera and in Mogadishu.

The Somali chief of staff went on: We have suffered a great deal at the hands of the Soviets. It is their policy to give promises which they do not implement, and they try to dictate their conditions. It is sufficient to say that they stopped shipping arms to us during the war and turned from a Soviet-Somali friendship to a Soviet-Ethiopian friendship.

On his visit to Cairo, Maj Gen Omar Hajj Mohamed said that he carries a message from Somali President Siad Barre to President Anwar as-Sadat. He pointed out that his visit to Cairo has no connection with any events and that relations between the Egyptian and Somali Armed Forces are stronger than any events. He pointed out that he had visited Cairo in 1979, that Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi then visited Somalia and that senior commanders in both countries exchanged visits.

The Somali chief of staff further said that he will meet with Defense Minister Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi tomorrow, that on arrival he met with Egyptian chief of staff Lt Gen Abd Al-Halim Abu Ghazalah and that, time permitting, he will meet with more Egyptian officials in various special fields. He added that an Egyptian military delegation is now in Mogadishul in order to convey congratulations on the anniversary of the Somali revolution.

AS-SADAT SPEAKS AT TUNNEL INAUGURATION CEREMONY 25 OCT

NC251245 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1050 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Speech delivered by President Anwar as-Sadat at a ceremony held in Suez City on 25 October to inaugurate Martyr Ahmad Hamdi Tunnel under the Suez Canal--live]

[Text] In the name of God. Brothers and sons, sisters and daughters: This is one of the glorious days in the life of Egypt--the Egypt of October. I remember that on one such day in 1973, precisely on 28 October 1973, I summoned Engineer 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman and charged him with forming a reconstruction ministry. The bulge was still existent then. I demanded that he bein immediately on the reconstruction of the canal area, including Suez and the bulge area. I told him then: This is a television battle. Prepare yourself because the area will be empty before you have prepared yourself. [applause]

I also remember that on 28 October 1973 I charged him with a specific assignment--the construction of a tunnel under the Suez Canal. I charged him with this task on 28 October 1973, as I said. The canal cities implemented the tasks assigned to them. More than one new city was constructed in Suez. A new city was constructed in Ismailia and the old city was repaired. The same happened in Port Said.

Indeed, I feel extremely happy today that the tunnel has been dug under the Suez Canal to end Sinai's isolation for good. [applause] Today, the cannons were fired; they are cannons of peace not war. One of the fiercest tank battles took place at this spot where we are now sitting. This battle took place for the sake of peace. We are reaping today the fruits of peace. The cannons of peace are fired today. Today, a mistake is corrected. It is a mistake we in Egypt committed when Sinai was left isolated from its mother Egypt. [applause] This historic mistake was corrected today, praise be to God, and for ever, God willing. Sinai has returned to its mother and Egypt has returned to Sinai.

Moreover, Egypt shoulders a historical responsibility toward its Arab nation and Islamic nation. This tunnel links the east of the Islamic and Arab nation with its west through its center--Egypt. As of this moment, a new strategic aspect has been set up in this area by the sons of Egypt and by the will of Egypt--its effort and sweat--so as to link the east of the Islamic and Arab world with its west.

The souls of our martyrs who fell in battle on this spot or in the canal are undoubtedly floating happily around us today. Greetings from Egypt and from me to the soul of our heroic martyr Ahmad Hamdi [applause]. By his martyrdom, he has recorded a deed that will be remembered forever due to this tunnel, which will not only serve the welfare of Egypt and its Sinai but also that of the Islamic and Arab nation through its new strategy.

Greetings from Egypt and from me to all the pious martyrs of our firm and steadfast armed forces. [applause]

Finally, I send my greetings to the men of the Arab Contractors Company--those heroes who built the miracle of this age; namely, the high dam, and who completed the second miracle, which is this tunnel. [applause] To them I send greetings of appreciation from me and Egypt.

The Egypt of October does not know the impossible; the Egypt of October is storming the problems. No one had imagined that this great work would be finished on time, using the most modern technology.

In a few weeks we will also celebrate another great work in this area, the third opening of the Suez Canal. [applause] The first opening took place when the canal was opened in the last century. The second opening took place in 1975. The third opening will take place this December. A new canal has been dug, with God's help, and with the hands of the sons of Egypt and with Egypt's sweat.

We tell all those who think that Egypt can be isolated, that Egypt can be blockaded, that Egypt can be starved or that Egypt can sell its will for money--we tell them that Egypt will forever remain the beacon of science, work and achievement. Egypt will remain the base and pioneer of the Arab and Islamic worlds. Egypt will correct their mistakes--and they are wrong. Egypt will ignore their mistakes--and they are wrong. Egypt will tell them: Know your place toward Egypt. With the sweat of its sons, with its performance and responsibility, with 7,000 years of civilization, science, gratitude and light and with the divine messages, Egypt will remain lofty and will continue to correct the mistakes of these wrongdoers.

Today, as I said, the eastern part of the Islamic and Arab nations is linked with its western part. Egypt's dignity is above all the billions [of dollars]; Egypt's dignity is above all the controversies; Egypt's dignity is above all the trivialities which we see here and there; Egypt's dignity stems from God's dignity and justice [applause]; Egypt's dignity is represented by will and work; Egypt's dignity is represented by performance and honor; Egypt's dignity is for the sake of man and his dignity; it is for the sake of security and safety which those around us are lacking.

Today, we are living in security and safety. We build and construct; we connect the east with the west. We are digging with our nails in order to make miracles while those around us are destroying their houses with their own hands. Egypt will remain the beacon of security and safety. Egypt will remain a shelter for them when they will find no shelter in this world, except in Egypt. [applause]

Brothers, sisters, sons and daughters: This is one of Egypt's glorious days. I have been happy with my dream which began on 28 October 1973, as I told you. It took all this time to realize it because we have had to apply the most up-to-date technology of the age. As we have heard from Engineer (Sulayman 'Abd al-Hayy), the technology used to carry out this magnificent work is indeed the most up-to-date in the world. It has taken us all this time, but we formed a new [qualified] group of the sons of Egypt.

As I have already said, we will celebrate the third reopening of the canal in a few weeks. In January, as the chairman of the Arab Contractors, Husayn 'Uthman said, we will turn to food security and agriculture, to see the most modern technology of the world used in exploiting the land for intensive agriculture development. As I have said, we are storming the problems in order to solve them.

Egypt will remain forever high and lofty by sweat, work, values, loyalty and nobleness. I will repeat that they will find no place to take shelter except in Egypt. Throughout the centuries, Egypt has provided and will continue to provide a place for every Muslim and Arab. Egypt will remain the shield, mind, sword, [the country of] science and civilization, the leader and pioneer. It is the sons of Egypt who make these miracles.

My Lord: Make Egypt a safe and secure country and give all fruits to its people. God's peace be with you. [applause]

Questions Following Speech

NC251816 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Suez, 25 Oct (MENA)--President as-Sadat wrote the following in the visitors book at Ahmad Hamdi Tunnel: In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful. A delightful greeting to all those who contributed toward the accomplishment of this gigantic work. Egypt is proud of you and I am proud of you. May God grant you success.

Following that, journalists and correspondents surrounded President as-Sadat and a reporter asked him whether he had recently made contacts concerning the U.S. hostages in Iran. The president denied this.

Another reporter told the president: It was evident in your speech today that you were angry with the Arabs. The president replied: I am just stating a clear fact.

AD-DIN DELIVERS AS-SADAT ADDRESS TO PEOPLE OF SUEZ

NC251854 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text of President as-Sadat's message to people of Suez, delivered on his behalf by Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din at a 25 October rally in Suez]

[Excerpts] Suez, 25 Oct (MENA)--People of Suez: Had it not been for the victory of October 1973 and for the steadfastness with which you affirmed your determination and glory in your city, it would have been impossible for the canal to be reopened and life to be revived in the area.

Brothers and sisters, you opened the way for establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the entire area. The October victory was the starting point for the peace initiative, followed by the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. During all these stages, Egypt has always put two firm principles before its eyes: the inevitability of [Israel] withdrawal from the territory occupied in 1967, and the preservation of the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to self-determination.

Egypt affirmed this concept at the United Nations and at the Knesset in the heart of Israel, and continues to affirm it as being the cornerstone of its foreign policy.

Egypt has never given up its Islamic and Arab commitments while others have been fighting through broadcasts and words. Egypt has expressed its complete readiness to use all its ability to defend the Islamic and Arab nation. In doing so, Egypt is fully aware of its pioneer historic role and responsibility and feels that it is in the midst of the events surrounding the entire area. Thanks to its wise policy, Egypt is proceeding along a firm, clear and specific course at a time of the eruption of wars in the area such as that between the two Muslim states Iran and Iraq; at a time of the Soviet invasion of Islamic Afghanistan; at the time of the bloody struggle in Syria; and at a time of the Arab axes, which are aimed at intrinsic interests and at outbidding on the Palestinian question and Jerusalem.

Amidst all this, Egypt is proceeding with firm and confident strides along its democratic course with all its dimensions. In addition, Egypt is affirming the state of institutions; consolidating the supremacy of the law; achieving vast progress despite the economic and social obstacles; developing its state administration and public sectors; securing the future of its sons against disability, old age and sickness; opening new schools, hospitals and universities; and exporting to the Arab world the expertise, knowledge and manpower without which there would be no development or progress.

SADDAM HUSAYN CONGRATULATES ARMY ON TAKING AL-MUHAMMARAH

JN241432 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA)--President Saddam Husayn has greeted the fighters of our gallant army and has praised their splendid valor in liberating Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] and purging it of the Persian aggressors' remnants.

The president's greetings to the valiant fighters were conveyed by Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the armed forces and defense minister, in a cable to the armed forces today.

The cable reads: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

If God helps you, none can overcome you. [Koranic verse]

O valiant fighters, O victorious heroes of the liberation of Al-Muhammarah: Greetings of love and appreciation from the commander of our victorious march and the liberation hero of our nation, President Saddam Husayn, the commander in chief of the armed forces. You performed your duty, safeguarded the trust and defended the nation's honor. Blessed is your definite victory and martyrs may rest in peace. Greetings of admiration and pride to the mothers, sisters and wives of martyrs. May God bless the soil of our martyrs. May God grant you long life, to defend the continued glory of your nation. Congratulations to your people and faithful leadership for your great victory. All our love, appreciation and admiration for your great and noble sacrifices.

You have purged the land of your forefathers with your noble and pure blood.

Long live your valiant army, the faithful defender of the nation's honor. Long live our faithful steadfast people, who are struggling for principles of good and honor.

You have given the best examples of heroism and sacrifice in achieving the best image of cohesion among the fighters of the army, the People's Army and the internal security forces.

Please accept all of our appreciation and admiration. Onward, grandsons of Khalid, Sa'd and Salah ad-Din. Onward, brave men of Saddam's al-Qadisiyah, to purge all of our usurped lands in every part of our Arab homeland.

SA'DUN HAMMADI SAYS NO WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT BORDER TREATY

JN252004 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA)--INA has learned that Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of foreign affairs, has addressed written messages to the foreign ministers of the UN Security Council member-states. The messages deal with the deliberations held at the council on the fighting between Iraq and Iran and with the Iraqi Government's opinion of these deliberations.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi handed the messages to these states' ambassadors at the end of a meeting he held with them this evening.

During his meeting with the heads of missions of the security council member-states, Dr Hammadi explained the factors and circumstances that preceded the war with Iran, stressing that Iraq did not cause them.

He said that Iraq has inalienable rights to its territory and full sovereignty over the Shatt al-'Arab, but that Iran refused to respond to them. He added that Iraq also has lands on the border, which Iran kept and refused to hand over to Iraq, contrary to the 1975 agreement. He said that Iraq submitted several memos to Iran, asking that it evacuate these lands and return them to Iraq. However, he said, not only did Iraq not receive any reply to its repeated claims to its lands, but the Iranian military presence on these lands increased and they began military operations against us.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi explained that, in the 4-22 September 1980 period, the border region, from the north to the south, became tense, for the Iranian heavy artillery shelled the cities of Khanaqin and Mandali and attacked all of the Iraqi borderposts. Further, they closed the Shatt al-'Arab by force and began shelling the ships there. Iran also massed large-scale troop concentrations on our borders, closed its airspace 4 days before 22 September and used its air force to strike at our border regions.

He said: During the Security Council deliberations, we noticed that some members began to talk about the Iraqi forces' withdrawal. There were clear hints about this in the U.S. officials' statements.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi explained that Iraq has announced several times and is announcing now that it does not have any territorial ambitions in Iran, but that it cannot concede its legitimate rights to its territories and full sovereignty over the Shatt al-'Arab under any circumstances.

Dr Hammadi said that the talk about withdrawal is unrealistic for the following reasons:

First, there is no border treaty between Iraq and Iran other than the 1913 agreement. The 1975 treaty was in fact cancelled by Iran and it was then cancelled by Iraq. The 1937 treaty was also unilaterally cancelled by the shah. Therefore, when we talk about withdrawal, we wonder to what point the withdrawal should be.

Second, how can we imagine the Iraqi Armed Forces withdrawing after all that has happened? What are the security guarantees that Iran would not launch a war on Iraq and enter its territory? How can we guarantee our border areas and the security of our armed forces?

Dr Hammadi said that if the intention is indeed to reach a lasting and not a merely temporary settlement, then the talks must be accompanied by accession to Iraq's legitimate demands and the provision of guarantees that the fighting will not be renewed.

Dr Hammadi emphasized that Iraq seeks a lasting and viable peace between Iraq and Iran on one hand and between Iran and the Arab countries on the other. He pointed out that over the last 500 years, Iran has been an element of disturbance and a continuous problem to the Arab states in the Arab east and that this is because Iran has always wanted to expand its borders.

Dr Hammadi said: We want firmly established borders and we want to entrench the principle of noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

The Iraqi foreign minister said that Iraq does not interfere in Iran's internal affairs, because the type of political system in Iran concerns only the Iranian people.

Dr Hammadi said that Iran must never interfere in the Arab countries' internal affairs.

Concluding, Dr Hammadi said: Iraq only wants right and justice. We are certain that you care for peace in this region, just as Iraq cares for peace and security in the region and the world.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI COMMENTS ON U.S. NEUTRALITY

AL-BAYAN Interview

GF2 1820 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 24 Oct 80 p 13

[Marian Hawk interview with Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi "published on the same day in agreement with the magazine 8 DAYS"--place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Since the beginning of the war between Iraq and Iran the United States has adopted a neutral stance. However, U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie has said in the past few days that the United States will lift its economic sanctions against Iran as soon as the American hostages have been released. Do you consider this a departure from the U.S. policy of neutrality?

[Answer] If the settlement of the hostages issue results in the flow of U.S. arms to Iran, then no one can consider this to be compatible with the aforementioned policy of neutrality.

[Question] How will Iraq respond to this?

[Answer] I do not know specifically what our response will be. However, we shall consider such an action a departure from the U.S. policy of neutrality declared since the war began, particularly if this meant the dispatch of military hardware to Iran during the present stage of the war.

[Question] During your recent meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Muskie in New York, did you receive assurances from him on U.S. neutrality?

[Answer] Yes, he has done so. I expressed to him my satisfaction at hearing this and our desire that this stand should continue.

[Question] During your meeting did you express any fears regarding the resolution of the hostages crisis?

[Answer] I did not refer to the hostages issue. Iraq has nothing to do with this affair. It concerns only the United States and Iran. However, I said to Muskie that U.S. neutrality means the suspension of arms shipments to both warring factions and that we expect the United States to refrain from sending military hardware to Iran. We hope the two superpowers will adhere to this stand.

[Question] It has been understood that during his stay in New York, Iranian Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali Raja'i said the resolution of the hostages crisis would be imminent if the United States withdrew its AWACS planes from Saudi Arabia and would not protect Jordan from Iran's anger because of Jordan's support for Iraq. Did you convey to the U.S. Government any view on this matter?

[Answer] I did not come here to discuss the AWACS planes. What I can refer to is Jordan's assistance to Iraq. It is true that Jordan supports Iraq, but it is not taking part in the current military operations against Iran. This support is based on the fact that Iraq is seeking to regain its full rights over its land, exercise its sovereignty over the Shatt al-'Arab and put an end to Iran's interference in Iraq's internal affairs. I reaffirm and declare categorically that Jordan is not participating militarily in the Iraqi-Iranian war. We have not asked for military assistance from Jordan or any other country. We do not need such assistance.

[Question] In his speech at the UN Security Council and also during his press conference later on, Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said the AWACS planes in Saudi Arabia have supplied Iraqi forces with information about Iranian military movements and observed the Iranian Air Force. Is Iraq really receiving information from these planes?

[Answer] This is absolutely not true. It is part of the unfounded allegations and statements made by Iranian leaders.

[Question] What are Iraq's plans for the province of Arabistan [Khuzestan] in Iran?

[Answer] We have no plans for Arabistan.

[Question] But the thrust of Iraqi military activity is strategically concentrated in that area.

[Answer] This area is adjacent to the Shatt al-'Arab. When we proclaimed our sovereignty over the Shatt al-'Arab, the Iranian side closed the river by shelling ships passing through it.

[Question] What about the UN secretary general's call for a localized cease-fire to allow ships of neutral countries to leave the Shatt al-'Arab?

[Answer] We are prepared to agree to an arrangement for the safe departure of these ships provided that this would not weaken our legal position.

[Question] Does the question of what flag a ship carries constitute an important legal issue?

[Answer] Yes, the river is now Iraqi. The conflict arose in the first place because of this matter. We must consolidate our sovereignty over the river and cannot weaken our stand.

[Question] One of President Bani-Sadr's suggestions was that these ships should carry the UN flag. If these ships carry the Iraqi flag in addition to the UN flag, will this be acceptable to Iraq?

[Answer] The fact is that Mr Bani-Sadr has nothing to lose. Therefore, he can afford to be generous.

[Question] Did your trip to New York provide you with a suitable opportunity to discuss the resumption of diplomatic relations with the United States?

[Answer] No. We did not discuss this, and we have no plans at present to do so. As you know, our relations cannot continue to be severed, but we do not find that it is suitable to resume these relations now.

ATH-THAWRAH Interview

JN251015 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA)--Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has stated that Iraq has doubts about the truth of U.S. neutrality in the Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

In an interview with ATH-THAWRAH here today Hammadi said that the issue of the hostages is an emotional and temporary issue and that the United States is working to establish serious and cordial relations with the present Iranian regime and does not consider this regime as one with which it cannot reach understanding.

The United States certainly does not wish the collapse of this regime and believes it can contain it and establish relations of cooperation with it. Excluding the emotional statements, there are objectively no contradictions between the Iranian regime and the U.S. course.

Hammadi added that the U.S. administration is doing its best to obtain the release of the U.S. hostages because of the effects this could have on the presidential elections.

Hammadi noted that the United States recently began to exert more efforts to break the deadlock that occurred in the UN Security Council in the wake of Iran's rejection of the resolution issued by the Security Council. He added: This might be an attempt to get closer to Iran and to render a diplomatic service to it as it suffers international isolation.

Hammadi stressed that Iraq genuinely opposes the return of U.S. influence to the Gulf area. He added: All these reasons make us doubt the truth of U.S. neutrality.

Hammadi said that Iraq will continue to fight, regardless of how long it takes, to secure its legitimate rights. He added: If the Iranian regime wishes the war to be long, then long it will be. As long as Iraq fights to defend its legitimate and inalienable rights and the safety of its lands, then it does not matter whether the war is long or short. Iran's capability of waging a protracted war, however, is undoubtedly less than Iraq's.

Statement to INA

JN252133 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA)--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammaid has announced that the United States is standing at Iran's side, not only morally but materially, by arming it at this particular time.

In a statement to INA, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi said that the states that choose to stand at Iran's side at this particular time should take into consideration the Iraqi reaction and thus must take responsibility for what they are doing.

Dr Hammadi added that Iraq, which is defending its rights and its territorial sovereignty over its national lands and waters cannot be expected to stand with folded hands in the face of such developments. The Iraqi foreign minister announced that Iraq will consult with the other Arab countries about this dangerous situation.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi referred to the statements made by U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie about the situation between Iraq and Iran and the U.S. administration's readiness to supply the Iranian regime with arms.

Dr Hammadi said that Muskie's statements, in addition to President Carter's statements, about lifting the boycott on sending arms and equipment to Iran in return for a release of the hostages prove that the alleged U.S. neutrality on the Iraqi-Iranian armed conflict is not true and that this policy has changed.

Further Statement

JN260549 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0300 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has asserted that statements by U.S. officials, especially Secretary of State Edmund Muskie, concerning the situation between Iraq and Iran are biased toward Iran.

Asked by INA about his opinion on these statements, Dr Hammadi said: U.S. officials have made several statements recently concerning the situation between Iraq and Iran which cannot but be considered biased toward Iran, such as President Carter's well-known recent statements. The statements made by Secretary of State Muskie in his television interview on 19 October on the subject of supplying arms to Iran also reflect this trend.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi added: In his interview, Muskie reiterated President Carter's statement that the United States would lift the arms and ammunition embargo on Iran in exchange for the hostages. But there was something more important and perhaps even more serious in that interview. Muskie declined to answer the question on whether, in exchange for the hostages, the United States would give Iran more arms than those already purchased. Muskie declined to answer this question although it was repeated several times.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi said that the United States has often stated that its policy is not to send arms to areas of armed conflict. It has also announced several times, and even during this interview, that it is neutral in the war between Iran and Iran. Therefore, why did Muskie decline to answer that question.

In his statements, Muskie said that the United States remains neutral in this dispute, but that there could be changes in this neutrality in light of developments in the situation. What does this mean?

Dr Hammadi said: No matter how I try, I cannot but see the United States supporting Iran, not only morally but also materially. In other words, by arming Iran in these particular circumstances.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi added: I would like on this occasion to say: On the basis of this understanding, states which choose to stand on the side of Iran at such a time must consider our reaction and the responsibility of what they are doing. Iraq, which is defending its rights and sovereignty over its national territory and waters, cannot be expected to remain indifferent to such developments. For its part, Iraq will hold consultations with other Arab countries in this grave situation.

OFFICIAL SAYS MCHENRY SPEECH CONSTITUTES THREAT TO IRAQ

JN250916 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Oct 80 pp 1, 19

['Adnan al-Katib dispatch]

[Excerpt] New York--The statements made by Donald McHenry, U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations, the night before last, have prompted violent reactions in Arab quarters in general, and in Iraqi quarters in particular.

In an exclusive statement to AD-DUSTUR's New York correspondent, Salah al-Mukhtar, press spokesman of the Iraqi UN delegation, has stated that the U.S. statement can be regarded as a veiled threat to Iraq and is not the last of the U.S. statements which indirectly reflect a clear U.S. bias to the Iranian side.

The Iraqi press spokesman added that previous U.S. statements have clarified the following matters to us:

1. The United States will not allow Iraq to achieve a complete victory over Iran. Although the U.S. representative had not mentioned this explicitly, the substance of his remarks indicate this through the rejection by the United States of what it has termed Iraq's unilateral exercise of its influence in the Arab Gulf and oil area.

2. The Sultanate of Oman and Jordan have been warned against providing Iraq with any military or nonmilitary facilities.

3. The U.S. has assured the Iranian Administration that the United States is ready to provide Iran with spare parts and other reserve materials in exchange for improvement of relations between the United States and Iran and the release of the hostages.

4. U.S. papers close to the State Department have begun to publish claims recently that the Soviet Union has sent five war vessels to Iraq loaded with ammunition and arms. This was in accordance with a recent U.S. official statement that the Soviet Union has abandoned its impartiality and therefore the United States cannot continue its impartiality in this war. This speech constitutes a U.S. declaration that it is biased toward Iran and poses a threat to Iraq and the Arab nation.

This stand, which we have expected from the United States, does not scare us. On the contrary, it increases our determination and that of the Arab nation to regain our rights and defend our interests regardless of the consequences.

IRAN, U.S. SAID TO MAKE 'SECRET CONTACTS' ON HOSTAGES

JN262030 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] New York, 26 Oct (INA)--Informed sources here have disclosed that the deal on the release of the U.S. hostages was concluded as a result of secret contacts between the Iranian regime and the U.S. Administration in various European capitals.

These sources pointed out that the Khomeyni regime has been eager to keep its contacts with the administration of U.S. President Jimmy Carter secret and out of the hands of the media, so that the Iranian peoples would not realize this regime's true identity.

The sources asserted that three contacts have actually taken place between the Khomeyni regime and the U.S. Administration. These contacts, the sources added, have contributed to the conclusion of the deal on the release of the hostages at this time, as defined by Washington, so that it can be exploited in the U.S. presidential campaign by Carter.

The first of these contacts took place between Beheshti, president of the Supreme Court, and several U.S. officials in West Germany. The broad lines of the hostages deal were drawn up during this meeting. This was followed by a meeting between former Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh and a number of U.S. officials in Geneva. This meeting was devoted to exchanging viewpoints on the way the deal should be effected and to defining the steps necessary to this end.

The sources said that Ramsey Clark, a former U.S. attorney general known for his relationship with the Iranian regime, met with the Iranian UN mission in New York recently to reach final agreement on the release of the U.S. hostages.

Press reports in London indicated recently that President Carter met in his Camp David retreat last weekend with a number of Iranian officials, including members of the delegation that accompanied Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i.

The reports said that Raja'i did not meet with Carter, in order to keep the negotiations between the two sides secret.

The report that the two sides have reached final agreement concerning the deal on the release of the hostages in turn for the resumption of arms shipments to Iran is confirmed by the arrival of 200 U.S. journalists in Frankfurt, to receive the hostages upon their arrival from Tehran.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 24-27 OCT

Communique No 100

JN241710 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1650 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Communique No 100 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 24 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Following the victory of the men of the Arab nation, the fighters of our victorious troops, over the Persian racist enemy, and following the destruction of his defeated troops in Arab Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] and its liberation from the filth of the invading usurpers, our armed forces continued to chase the enemy's remnants this afternoon and to strike at him deep inside his territory, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment, as follows:

I. The ground forces:

Our air defense shot down three F-5 planes in the southern sector of the theater of operations.

II. The air forces:

A. Enemy planes attempted to raid civilian targets this afternoon. Our air defenses intercepted them, downing a number of enemy planes, as follows:

1. At 1200 three enemy fighter planes raided the Al-Faw area.
2. At 1345 three enemy helicopters raided one of our outposts in the Al-Faw area.

B. Two fighter planes and one helicopter were downed. This brings the number of planes shot down and captured today to 10.

C. Today our planes raided enemy economic and military targets, inflicting grave losses on them as follows:

1. The Ahvaz--Bandar-e Shahpur [Bandar-e Khomeyni] railroad near the Mansuri area was hit and destroyed.
2. Oil tanks north of Ahvaz were hit.
3. Enemy vehicle concentrations in Taheri in the Ahvaz sector were hit.
4. The enemy remnants retreating from Al-Muhammarah toward Abadan were hit and destroyed.

All of our planes returned safely to their bases.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 October 1980.

Communique No 101

JN250942 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0928 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Communique No 101 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 25 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With deep faith in scoring victory over the racist Persian enemy and with high morale and competence, the fighters of our triumphant armed forces continued to deal blows to the enemy last night and this morning in the operations sector, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment on him:

I. The ground forces:

A. Known enemy losses:

1. In personnel: 14 killed.
2. In equipment: 10 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 8 vehicles of various types and 4 self-propelled guns were destroyed.
3. Three vehicles loaded with supplies were destroyed.
4. An enemy camp in the Amirabad area was hit and heavily damaged.
5. Five supply depots were blown up and two guard posts destroyed.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 20 martyrs.
2. In equipment: Five vehicles and one gun were burned and destroyed.

II. The air forces: This morning, our fighter planes attacked enemy helicopters which were trying to raid our units in the southern sector, downing three of them.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 October 1980.

Communique No 102

JN251738 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1713 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Communique No 102 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 25 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

This afternoon our armed forces fought the racist Persian enemy with bravery and high morale in the operational sectors. Our forces continued the strike at the retreating enemy remnants in the southern sector, as well as at vital enemy targets behind its lines, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment.

I. The ground forces:

A. Known enemy losses:

1. In personnel: 32 killed.
2. In equipment: 1 tank, 13 vehicles of various types and 1 field gun were destroyed and burned.
3. A vehicle loaded with Khomeyni guards was destroyed.
4. A gunboat in the Shatt al-'Arab was sunk.
5. A fuel station was destroyed and burned
6. Two fighter planes and one helicopter in the southern sector of the theater of operations were shot down. This brings the number of enemy planes downed in the theater of operations today to six.

B. Our losses: Eight martyrs.

II. The air forces:

A. At 1030 today enemy planes raided civilian installations in At-Ta'mim. Our planes intercepted them and forced them to flee.

B. Today our planes raided enemy military and economic targets, inflicting the following heavy losses upon them:

1. Military positions in Haft Tappeh, to the south of Shush in Dezful sector, were bombed.
2. The (Omidiyeh) airport in the in Bandar-e Shahpur [Bandar-e Khomeyni] sector was hit, great damage being inflicted on its installations and hangars.
3. Concentrations of enemy armor and vehicles on the Abadan (Shaykh Budayr) axis were hit and a large number of them were destroyed.
4. Oil storage tanks in the Masjed Soleyman region were hit and set on fire.
5. An enemy camp to the north of Hamidiyeh in the Ahvaz sector was struck and a concentration of armor and vehicles in it was destroyed.

All of our planes returned safely to the homeland except two, which went down over enemy territory. We hold the Iranian authorities responsible for the safety of their two pilots.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 October 1980.

Communique No 103

JN252126 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Communique No 103 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 25 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The racist enemy tried to attack our units stationed east of the Karun River in a desperate attempt to cover his abominable defeat in Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] and in the rest of the sectors along the entire front, in implementation of the orders of his defeated leader and the satan of Qom. The result of this attempt was but disappointment and failure, as well as great losses in both lives and equipment for him. We hope that Bani-Sadr and the other satans hiding in Qom and Tehran will make further attempts of this type, so that we may destroy and crush their forces and inflict further defeats and failures on them.

Following are the results of the fierce battle today, in which our valiant forces repulsed the enemy attempt:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel: Hundreds of soldiers and Khomeyni guards, including the force commander, were killed. Scores of soldiers, including the deputy force commander, were taken captive.

B. In equipment: 17 tanks, 2(BM B1) vehicles, 2 missile launchers and a large number of vehicles of various types were destroyed, one Phantom shot down, and 45 GS rifles, 4 machineguns, 2 mortars, 5 communications devices, 3 rocket launchers and many crates of ammunition captured.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 5 martyrs.

B. In equipment: Three tanks, one machinegun and two vehicles [were destroyed].

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 October 1980.

Communique No 104

JN260952 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0925 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Communique No 104 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Last night and this morning, our armed forces fought the racist Persian enemy with heroic zeal. They destroyed his pockets in the southern sector and chased his remnants in other sectors of the theater of operations, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment.

I. The ground forces:

A. Enemy losses:

1. In personnel: 21 killed.
2. In equipment: Three armored personnel carriers and three other types of vehicles were set on fire and destroyed.
3. Several fuel and ammunition dumps were destroyed.
4. One Chieftain tank, one other vehicle and a quantity of medium weapons were seized. All are serviceable.
5. Three helicopters were shot down in the southern sector of the theater of operations.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 15 martyrs.
2. In equipment: Three vehicles and one gun were destroyed.

II. The air forces: This morning, enemy aircraft raided civilian and military targets. Our air defenses intercepted them and shot down several enemy planes:

A. At 0655 they raided Panjwin in As-Sulaymaniyah Governorate.

B. At 0700 they tried to raid our forces in the southern sector of the theater of operations.

C. At 0710 they raided residential areas in the village of (Mawt) in As-Sulaymaniyah Governorate.

D. At 0840 they raided residential areas in Diyana in Irbil Governorate.

E. Our losses as a result of enemy air raids: one martyr and one wounded civilian in Diyana.

F. Two enemy Phantoms were shot down, one in As-Sulaymaniyah Governorate and one by our fighter planes in the southern sector of the theater of operations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 October 1980.

Communique No 105

JN261718 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1704 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Communique No 105 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

After the violent blows dealt by our armed forces to the racist Persian enemy and the grave losses sustained by the enemy during past weeks, and after his desperate attempt to attack our victorious units in the southern sector yesterday, which led to the destruction of his troops in a swift and decisive battle, the enemy's remnants began to withdraw, defeated and in disgrace. Thus, the enemy confirms his cowardice and defeatism in the face of the heroism of the lions of our armed forces.

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel: Five killed.
B. In equipment: Two gunboats in the Shatt al-'Arab and one vehicle were destroyed.
C. A large quantity of light weapons and supplies was captured.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Two martyrs.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles were destroyed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 October 1980.

Communique No 106

JN270847 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0835 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Communique No 106 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With determination and deep faith in victory and with high morale, our heroic fighters are chasing the retreating racist Persian enemy and dealing punishing blows to him in the southern sector, destroying his pockets wherever they are found in the other sectors of the theater of operations and inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel: 21 killed, 15 wounded.
B. In equipment: Two missile launchers and one vehicle were destroyed.
C. Several supply depots were destroyed.
D. Several medium weapons and a large quantity of various supplies were captured.
E. Four serviceable vehicles and one serviceable missile launcher were captured.
F. One Phantom was downed in the southern sector and one helicopter was downed in the northern sector of the theater of operations.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 12 martyrs.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles and one 106-mm gun were burned and destroyed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 October 1980.

FIGHTING CONTINUES FOR CONTROL OF ABADAN

25 Oct Report

JN252233 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2120 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Today our valiant forces destroyed a large amount of the enemy's armor, vehicles and equipment and inflicted heavy losses in lives when our forces repulsed the enemy's useless attempt to attack our forces in the main roads around Abadan. In this battle, for which the enemy massed large military capabilities, our forces captured a large number of the enemy's soldiers and seized a number of units of serviceable armor and tanks after the enemy soldiers escaped, leaving their dead and wounded on the battlefield. The commander of the southern sector, in a statement to an INA team, stressed that our forces are still tightening their grip on Abadan. He added that our forces are inflicting heavy losses on the enemy, both in lives and equipment, to force him to surrender now that he has been besieged from all sides.

Today the INA team witnessed the stationing of our valiant soldiers at Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] bridge. Meanwhile, our special forces, which fought fierce battles against the enemy, were reinforcing their positions in the city. Popular Army forces also took positions in the liberated city at the side of our valiant forces.

The INA team reported that our forces are still shelling the enemy's positions in the cities of Ahvaz and Dezful, which are virtually at the mercy of our artillery fire. The INA team witnessed the surrender of many enemy soldiers, who raised white flags while driving their tanks and vehicles after they lost their forces' positions, which were taken over by our advanced forces. The enemy soldiers were ignorant of what was going on because they were misled by their command, which is in a state of disorder and confusion. A number of soldiers, thinking that they had reached their own positions, were captured with their vehicles, which were loaded with arms and supplies.

26 Oct Report

JN261903 Baghdad INA inArabic 1830 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] The approaches to besieged Abadan, 26 Oct (INA)--The commander of the southern sector's forces has stated that the battle that raged between our valiant forces surrounding Abadan and the Persian enemy has shown the enemy forces' inability to confront our victorious troops.

In a statement to the INA team on the battlefront, the commander said that the enemy attempted to attack our valiant forces from three sides with one complete brigade, under heavy artillery cover. Our forces, the commander added, who were lying in wait for the enemy, wiped it out completely, after putting it between the pincers' jaws.

A high-ranking military source cited the Persian force deputy commander, who was captured during the battle that raged on the Abadan-Tehran and Abadan-Ahvaz axes, as saying that the Iranian forces' morale has collapsed completely. He added that the Iranian officers and soldiers are forced to fight after their dignity has been insulted by the Khomeyni guards. He asserted that he will not return to the Iranian Army after his release.

The INA tem said that the force that was wiped out by our forces was made up of special troops on which Bani-Sadr relied to lift the seige of Abadan and to cover the defeats of his forces on all fronts.

The INA team witnessed the burial ceremony of hundreds of dead Persians. It also witnessed how the wounded among the enemy personnel were evacuated and transported to Iraqi hospitals for treatment.

PEOPLE'S ARMY ELEMENTS LEAVE FOR FRONTLINES

JN261927 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 26 Oct (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and commander in chief of the People's Army, has conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to the People's Army fighters who are on their way to the frontlines to participate in the pan-Arab war of liberation against the Persian enemy.

Addressing the fighters in the Usama ibn Zayd sector this morning, Ramadan said: I am please to meet with you, now that you are prepared to perform the honorable role of the People's Army fighter in all arenas in our country and in the Arab world. I am hopeful that you will provide the best example in this popular combat experience.

GOVERNMENT TO HELP SHIPS DEPART FROM SHATT AL-'ARAB

JN241528 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA)--Iraq has expressed readiness to offer all facilities necessary for all foreign commercial ships and their crew members to leave the Shattal-'Arab for the high seas in the Arab Gulf, without harming Iraq's full sovereignty over the Shatt al-'Arab, provided that these ships carry the insignia of the International Red Cross.

This was stated by an official spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry today. The official spokesman, Ahmad Husayn, Foreign Ministry under secretary, said that this measure confirms Iraq's policy of consolidating cooperation with members of the international community, for humanitarian reasons and in response to the UN secretary general's request.

The official spokesman added that the Iraqi Government expressed readiness to give the necessary facilities for these ships to leave Shatt al-'Arab, without harming Iraq's full sovereignty over the Shatt. Iraq has proposed to the UN secretary general that these ships raise the insignia of the International Red Cross organization, in accordance with the 1949 Geneva conventions, particularly Article No 35 of the fourth Geneva convention, which was ratified by Iraq.

He explained that the Iraqi Foreign Ministry has conveyed this decision to the UN secretary general and the International Red Cross organization in Geneva, so that the organization, in cooperation with the responsible Iraqi authorities, can take the necessary measures in this regard.

ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTEDLY ASKS EEC TO MEDIATE

LD261344 Kuwait KUNA in English 1144 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Brussels, 26 Oct (KUNA)--Iraq has asked the EEC to mediate in the Iran-Iraq war in a bid to bring about a ceasefire. The plea for European intervention was made to Luxembourg Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn in a letter from Iraq's acting Foreign Minister Hamid 'Alwan.

The existence of the letter, which arrived on Friday, was revealed to EEC foreign minister [as received] at a meeting in Luxembourg this weekend.

PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES KUWAITI ENVOY

JN241933 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adasani, Kuwaiti public works minister and Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah's envoy to President Saddam Husayn this evening.

Al-'Adasani gave the president an oral message from Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah dealing with developments in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

The meeting was attended by the Kuwaiti ambassador in Baghdad.

INDIAN ENVOY ARRIVES WITH GANDHI MESSAGE

Meeting With Prime Minister

JN270824 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Oct (INA)--Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, met here last night with (Bandari), Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn and Indian Foreign Ministry under secretary.

Their discussion dealt with bilateral relations, the situation resulting from the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and the efforts being exerted by India and the nonaligned group, within the context of the good offices mission, to reach a peaceful and just solution to the conflict.

The Indian envoy arrived in Baghdad last night on a short visit to Iraq.

Meeting With President

JN270952 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0942 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Oct (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received a message this morning from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi dealing with bilateral relations and developments in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. The message was conveyed by (Bandari), Indian Foreign Ministry under secretary, when he was received by the president here today.

The message also dealt with the efforts being exerted by India within the context of the good offices mission to solve the conflict peacefully, justly and honorably and within the framework of the principles of liberty, sovereignty and national independence.

President Saddam Husayn expressed his thanks for Mrs Indira Gandhi's initiative and explained Iraq's principled stands and the circumstances which drove it to wage a battle in defense of its sovereignty and independence and in order to restore its legitimate rights.

The president reiterated what he has proclaimed on several occasions regarding Iraq's total readiness to cease firing and enter into negotiations to solve the problems between the two parties peacefully and in a manner guaranteeing Iraq's rights and full sovereignty over its land and waters.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister; Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi; and the Indian ambassador in Baghdad.

ITALIAN ENVOY CONVEYS MESSAGE TO SADDAM HUSAYN

JN261501 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1455 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Oct (INA)--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi received Italian Ambassador in Baghdad Valerio Brigante Colonna Angelini here today. The ambassador conveyed a message addressed to President Saddam Husayn from Italian President Alessandro Pertini, in reply to a message the Italian president had earlier received.

President Saddam Husayn's envoy, 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, Revolution Command Council member and minister of local government, recently conveyed a message to the Italian president from President Saddam Husayn dealing with developments in the situation on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

ENVOY TO ASIAN COUNTRIES RETURNS HOME 25 OCT

JN251018 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA)--Jasim Muhammad al-Khalaf, Iraqi minister of higher education and scientific research and President Saddam Husayn's envoy to the leaders of India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Japan and PRC, returned here today.

In a press statement upon arrival, Al-Khalaf said that during his tour, he conveyed messages to the leaders of the aforementioned countries from President Saddam Husayn dealing with the situation on the eastern flank of the Arab nation.

MEXICAN PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM MINISTER

JN251307 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo has received a message from President Saddam Husayn on developments on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland and Iraq's peaceful stand before and since the fighting began.

The message was conveyed by 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud, minister of irrigation and the president's envoy, during his meeting with the Mexican president yesterday in Mexico City.

The Mexican president expressed his understanding of Iraq's stand to restore its land and water, which were usurped by the Persians. He also expressed his appreciation of Iraq's response to resolutions of the UN Security Council resolutions and the Islamic Conference Organization regarding a cease-fire to which the Persians did not respond.

President Lopez-Portillo asked 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud to convey his greetings and those of the Mexican people to President Saddam Husayn and to the Iraq people.

NEW GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED 25 OCT; REACTIONS REPORTED

NC252041 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2025 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] The new government has been formed as follows:

Prime Minister, Minister of Interior	Shafiq al-Wazzan
Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister	Fu'ad Butrus
Minister of National Defense	Joseph Skaf
Minister of Public Health	Dr Nazih al-Bizri
Minister of Justice	Khatchig Babikian
Minister of National Education	Rene Mu'awwad
Minister of Information	Michel Iddih
Minister of Economy and Trade	Khalid Junblatt
Minister of State	Joseph Abu Khatir
Minister of Posts and Telecommunications	Michel al-Murr
Minister of Finance	'Ali al-Khalil
Minister of State	Mahmud 'Ammar
Minister of State	Munir Abu Fadil
Minister of Public Works	(Ilyas al-Hirawi)
Minister of Industry and Oil	(Muhammad Yusuf Baydun)
Minister of State	(Qaysar Nasr)
Minister of State	(Sami Yunis)
Minister of Housing and Cooperatives	(Salim al-Jahil)
Minister of Labor and Social Affairs	('Abd ar-Rahman al-Labbani)
Minister of Agriculture	(Mustafa Darni'a)
Minister of Tourism	(Marwan Hamadah)

[Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 2100 GMT on 25 October carries a recorded statement by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan in which he announces the composition of the new Cabinet. The announcement identifies Fu'ad Butrus as deputy prime minister and foreign and expatriates minister. Rene Mu'awwad is identified as minister of national education and fine arts. (Ilyas al-Hirawi) is listed as minister of public works and transport. The minister of agriculture is given as Engineer (Mustafa Birmayq). The minister of water and electricity resources, listed as Engineer Anwar as-Sabbah, is added.]

Two Appointment Rejections

NC270838 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Text] About 45 minutes from now the new Cabinet will hold its first meeting to form a committee to draft the Cabinet statement.

It has been learned that Ministers of State Munir Abu Fadil and (Sami Yunis) will not attend the meeting because they have rejected their portfolios. Contacts made with the two ministers in this connection have failed.

First Meeting

NC271019 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis has presided over the first meeting of the new Cabinet in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. Ministers Joseph Skaf and Michel Iddih were absent from the meeting because they are abroad. Also Minister of State Munir Abu Fadil did not attend.

Prime Minister Interview

NC262035 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has granted an interview to Monte Carlo Radio, broadcast today, in which he deals with current issues and the tasks awaiting the new government.

Asked about the name which can he has given to his government, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: One of the first things one does when his child is born is to give that child a favorite name. That name could be the name of a father, mother, a dear one or a relative. We have nothing dearer and more precious than Lebanon. Therefore, I call our government the Government of Work for Lebanon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan was asked: Mr Prime Minister, as a young man and as the first former minister to enter the prime ministers club in Lebanon, how do you envisage the official work and huge responsibility which lies ahead for the new government at the start of the eighties?

He replied: First, I would like us all to cooperate and rid ourselves of the name, the prime ministers club, and the connotations it has: A club often brings to mind leisure and entertainment, whereas we think that we have embarked on a sacred duty which serves the homeland and Lebanon. Of course, we are passing through difficult circumstances and a continuous ordeal--an ordeal from which the Lebanese and all those who reside on Lebanese territory are suffering. We are facing a vicious enemy who does not want to understand either the language of the United Nations or the language of right, principle and justice. He has directed steel and fire at us, and is forcing us to think in terms of steel and fire. The effects that the Israeli aggressions are having on Lebanon, the repercussions that the implantation of Israel on Arab land has made and the continuing problems all this has caused call for continuous work, which we hope to formulate into a program in order to emerge from our ordeal. Our problems are many, and in my opinion there are many essential steps which must be taken. However, it is perhaps inappropriate and not in our interest for me to begin to define or disclose these steps today before the cabinet holds its first session. After our meeting and discussion with the ministers we will be able to define the ideas and steps which should be adopted in the coming period.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan was asked: Mr Prime Minister, Lebanon has been facing great problems for the past 6 years--problems produced by the 2-year war and its aftermath. These include problems of security, sovereignty, as well as social and economic problems. What is the program or the outlines of the program which your government hopes to achieve in this regard?

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: There is no doubt that through my association with the citizens, I realize that their first demand is security. I had this same impression during the consultations I held with the deputies before the formation of the Cabinet. I think that our task in ensuring security to the citizens will open the way to solving the other problems we are facing.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan was asked: Mr Prime Minister, do you have an appeal you want to address to the world, especially to the people in Lebanon and the Arab world, which shares the responsibility with Lebanon and considers what has happened and is happening in Lebanon as a joint Arab responsibility? Do you have a specific appeal that you want to address to the world in this regard?

The prime minister replied: In Lebanon we are living a great cultural experiment, which is the experiment of coexistence and which has brought us together in one homeland. We insist on remaining united in this homeland and on living as one state--people, land and institutions. The world has wronged us when, through the United Nations and through steel and fire, it planted Israel in the heart of the Arab world. The world today is reaping the results of its mistakes. We want the world to atone for its mistake in 1948. We want the world to take a lesson from us and atone for its mistakes against Lebanon and against people like the Lebanese people in other areas.

Al-Jumayyil Comments

NC261329 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Excerpt] In reply to a question on his opinion of the new Cabinet, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil [Phalangist Party leader] said: We all know that this Cabinet is not the one required for the present circumstances and it is not the one for tackling the problems from which the country is suffering. Despite our personal appreciation of the members of the new Cabinet--and they are all the subject of our love and appreciation--like others we are already convinced that the new Cabinet will not be able to achieve what the Lebanese people aspire for--that is, to regain full sovereignty over Lebanese territory and to impose the state's authority and law. These are, basically, the hopes of the Lebanese citizens in every part of the country.

Al-Jumayyil added: All this government can do--and we hope it can do more--is that after the resignation of the former government, it can manage state affairs in a constitutional manner. The people and the government itself know that circumstances were not suitable for the formation of a more capable and effective government. However, we realize at the same time that the mere existence of a government, conforming with the spirit of democracy and the constitution, attests to the maintenance of at least the last brick in the wall of legitimacy, hence the conviction of the people that this is an appointed government for a specific task and for specific circumstances.

AFP REPORTS 2-MONTH TRUCE FOR HARVEST TO BEGIN 27 OCT

NC261452 Paris AFP in English 1440 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Beirut, 26 Oct (AFP)--International Red Cross mediation has resulted in a 2-month truce, to begin tomorrow, in the fighting in south Lebanon, the daily L'ORIENT-LE JOUR reported here today.

The newspaper said the truce had been arranged to allow harvesting of olives, one of south Lebanon's most important crops. Olive groves are located in the separate areas controlled by the militia of dissident Major Sa'd Haddad, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), and the Palestinian/left-Lebanese forces.

Although in April 1978 Major Haddad proclaimed the secession of the frontier strip, which he named "the State of Free Lebanon," persons living inside that territory still travel to the Beirut area to visit relatives.

Meanwhile the Lebanese Government, which calls Major Haddad a traitor, has organised secondary school final examinations, in cooperation with UNIFIL, for students in the seceded zone.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI INTERVIEWED ON ATOM BOMB, IRAQ-IRAN WAR

LD241716 Tripoli JANA in English 1400 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Oct (JANA)--The Italian magazine EPOCA today carried the text of the interview which was conducted by the journalist Franceso Briggiri with the brother leader in which he spoke about a number of international and national issues.

Replying to a question on the merger with the sister country Syria, he said, "This merger was inevitable for the Arab masses; all the enemies' attempts to hinder such unionist steps were useless. We do not care about such attempts because they only serve the enemies' interests."

On the question concerning the big powers' military presence in the Mediterranean, Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi said that the Mediterranean Sea should remain an area of peace and free from all foreign fleets. He said that if another Arab-(Israeli) war breaks out, a third world war will become very possible. He added if the Arabs tried to liberate Palestine from (Israeli) occupation and the United States intervened to stop them from doing so, then a third world war would be inevitable.

He went on to say that it is the right of the Arabs to liberate Palestine, therefore a third world war could not be avoided unless the United States adopts a different policy and the Palestinian rights are restored.

"We are very much concerned about the possibility of a third world war, but we will try our utmost to maintain peace in the world. We do not have the power to change the U.S. policy or to put an end to (Israeli) occupation in Palestine peacefully. Therefore we hold America and (Israel) responsible for any world conflict."

In his answer to the question on the third universal theory and its implementation, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that the dicta of the Green Book are being applied in the Jamahiriyah. Power, he said, is now in the hands of the people and it is made practical through the people's congresses, where resolutions are being approved and carried out by people's committees. The regular army, he said, will be replaced by the armed people. Houses now belong to their occupiers, and factory workers have become partners and not wage workers. Public markets were set up and exploitation is abolished.

He added that the whole world will soon become like the Jamahiriyah. He continued, "Following the establishment of the people's power, my role now is only to incite the masses to consolidate our people's power and to guide the masses and lead them along the right track."

On the women's issue, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that women, who constitute half of the world population, are being subjected to oppression. In the East, women are treated badly and in the West women have to strip themselves from their femininity to become like men in order to be able to earn their living. This also has to be abolished.

The world, he said, should realize the nature of the feminist movement and help them to gain their rights. Women should not be treated like ornaments.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's answer to the question of the Fiat workers strike was to say what is going on in Fiat plants fully contradicts what is stated in the Greek Book. "We stand on the side of the workers who are threatened to be laid off. We totally disagree with the method used by the management in dealing with the situation despite Libya's position in the company as a partner." The Fiat workers, he said, should occupy all plants until a positive solution is reached and all other problems are solved.

On the Jamahiriyah's endeavour to possess an atomic bomb, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said his country does not possess such a bomb nor is it about to do so. He then asked, why can't the world just concern itself with the bombs that already exist for a while, instead of occupying itself with whether the Jamahiriyah possesses an atomic bomb. He wondered why world public opinion should be deceived and why all the fuss should be centered around an atomic bomb alleged to be in the Jamahiriyah's possession, instead of worrying about the bombs that the United States, Britain, Russia, France, China and India actually possess.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi pointed out that Western propaganda aims at halting Third World efforts to acquire technology and to use nuclear power for peaceful purposes. He expressed concern over the continuing manufacture of atomic bombs by a few countries, which, he said, pose a threat to humanity. The Third World should get rid of these bombs that pollute the earth, he said.

When asked about the existence of military training camps in Libya for terrorists, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that Western allegations on this matter are groundless and that anyone knowing of such camps should come forward. He added: How can Libya offer military training when Libyans themselves are sent to get their military training in the countries supplying Libya with arms.

On the continental shelf between Libya and Malta, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the issue has been referred to the international court. He added that oil search in the disputed region should (?be stopped) until a decision has been taken by the court.

He pointed out that the Jamahiriyah is one of the first countries to guarantee Malta's neutrality and not Italy, for Italy being one of NATO's members cannot possibly be neutral, whereas Libya can, being a member state of the non-aligned movement. Hence, Libya can actually guarantee Malta's neutrality.

On the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that the current bloody war between Moslem brothers is a U.S.-(Israeli) design. "From the very beginning we have sent letters to both sides to bring this war to a halt. We will try again in the next Arab foreign ministers conference."

On the question of the Jamahiriyah's demands for a compensation from Italy and Germany, for using the Libyan territories during the Second World War, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that these countries should compensate the Libyan Arab people, and that an agreement should be reached with these countries because this is the right of our people.

JANA SCORES SAUDI MEDIA REACTION TO AL-QADHDHAFI SERMON

LD242048 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Oct (JANA)--The media of the Saudi ruling dynasty continue to cast a blind eye on the facts raised by the commander of the revolution in his sermon on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Adha feast and to preoccupy Saudi citizens with matters that are remote from reality.

The media of the ruling dynasty today attacked the sermon of the commander of the revolution but said nothing about the occupation by the American aircraft over the skies of Mecca and the holy places. Nor did they say anything about the brother commander's call on Muslims to declare a jihad against Zionism and the American forces which march to occupy the Arab homeland and desecrate the holy places. Instead, these media praised the adherence to Islam by the affluent Saudi royal dynasty and the repressive regime which has been amassing wealth in American coffers while leaving the people in abject poverty.

DEFENSE MINISTRY DENIES SUPPLYING PARTS TO IRAN

TA261603 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] In reply to a question from our reporter, the Defense Ministry spokesman today denied a report published in the United States by columnists Evans and Novak. According to the report, Israel is supplying Iran with spare parts for Phantom aircraft, which have been shipped via Holland for more than 2 weeks now. That is what the U.S. report claimed. The reaction of the Defense Ministry spokesman: The report is totally unfounded.

IRAQ REPORTEDLY SEEKING PARTS, AMMUNITION FROM EGYPT

TA261931 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Iraq is holding secret contacts with Egypt for the supply of spare parts and ammunition for the Soviet equipment in its possession. This has been learned by our correspondent in Egypt, Ehud Ya'ari. According to the reports, an Iraqi delegation secretly arrived in Egypt for this purpose. Sources in Egypt deny this report. Our correspondent in Cairo has also learned that an Egyptian military delegation visited the Saudi airbase at Tabuk, near Elat. The Egyptian interior minister, Nabawi Isma'il, returned to Egypt from a pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia; and the minister of state for foreign affairs, Butrus Ghali, told our correspondent in Cairo that contacts are underway between the two countries aimed at improving relations.

PRESIDENT NAVON LEAVES FOR STATE VISIT TO EGYPT

TA260953 [Editorial Report] Jerusalem Domestic Service and Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0832 GMT on 26 October begin live coverage of the state farewell ceremony for President Yitzhaq Navon at Ben-Gurion Airport prior to his departure for Egypt. The president's entourage arrives at 0836 GMT and is greeted by a trumpet fanfare. The president and his wife proceed to take their leave of a long line of Israeli officials and other public figures headed by Prime Minister Menahem Begin. At 0845 GMT President Navon makes a statement. After greeting those present, he says:

"On my behalf and on behalf of my wife, Ofira, and the people accompanyiing us I want to express our deep gratitude for your coming here to bid us farewell upon our departure for Egypt in response to the kind and friendly invitation of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. This is the first time I am leaving the boundaries of the country since I was elected president and I am glad that this departure is to our large neighbor, the land of the Nile. I am carrying with me words of peace and truth to the Egyptian people, words about our firm adherence to a way of friendship, fraternity and cooperation as well as words about [word indistinct] from the peace process and our opinion regarding the development of the relations stemming from it. I am glad that, together with my wife, we are given the opportunity to meet Egyptian personalities from various social circles, first and foremost the Egyptian president and his wife, administration officials, members of parliament, writers and intellectuals, editors of newspapers and magazines, women active in various spheres, workers and farmers. I am not going there to negotiate or to bargain. I am not overestimating my expectations from the visit. However, if Egypt's attitude toward us depends on the understanding of our motives, feelings and needs, perhaps this visit will bear some fruit. Time will tell. Perhaps, sometime in the future the words of the prophet Isaiah--"Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel my heritage"--will come true.

President Navon then proceeds to inspect the guard of honor. The national anthem is played amid the sounds of cannon fire. The president and his entourage board the plane and the airport broadcast ends at 0858 GMT.

SOMALIA

BARRE DISCUSSES STATE OF EMERGENCY, 'PROVOCATIONS'

LD241336 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1950 GMT 23 Oct 80 EA

[Excerpts] We have recalled the Supreme Revolutionary Council to help us correct the mistakes and aims which we think have deviated from the aspirations of the revolution. The council will work with committees possessing full responsibility to counsel on rights and wrongs. This was stated by Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, president of the Somali Democratic Republic, this evening while addressing thousands of people gathered on the grounds of the tomb of the unknown soldiers to support the resolution passed on 21 October 1980 on the state of emergency.

Referring to the state of emergency, the president stated that the party, National Assembly, government departments and social organizations will continue their normal duties. He pointed out that the purpose of the resolution is to safeguard the nation, protect and respect the interests of the Somali people, and to fight and confront imperialism and the greedy exploiters of the Somali masses.

Turning to the situation in the Horn of Africa, the president called on the big powers behind the Abyssinians to stop interfering in issues concerning the peoples of the Horn of Africa and leave matters to be solved by the people concerned. We are neighbors with Abyssinia, and it would be advisable for it to hold talks with us and allow the liberation movements their rights and self-determination so that lasting peace will prevail in the region, said Challe Mohamed Siad Barre.

The president, speaking on Abyssinian provocations, said that Abyssinian troops recently launched attacks on (Yeed) and Dolo districts of (Geddo) and Bakol regions respectively. However, they suffered extensive damage and had hundreds of their troops killed.

BARRE ORDERS FIVE MINISTERS TO FULL-TIME COMMITTEE WORK

LD261555 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 26 Oct 80 EA

[Text] Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre last night issued a directive on the need for Supreme Revolutionary Council [SRC] members to be free for committee duties. The SDR presidential directive was issued under Articles 82 and 83 of the Constitution; and Presidential Decrees No 1 of 21 October 1980 and 3 and 4 of 23 October 1980.

It states: In view of the need to free SRC members from administrative functions so as to be able to discharge their respective committee duties, the following will apply:

Article 4: With effect from 26 October 1980, Challe Maj Gen Abdullah Mohammed Radil, minister of health; Challe Brig Gen Mohamud Geele Yusuf, minister of marine transport and ports; Challe Col Ahmad Hasan Musa, miniser of agriculture; Challe Col Mohammed Omar Jes, minister of tourism,; Challe Col Abdi Warsama Issak, minister of the presidency for social affairs; Challe Brig Gen Mohammed Ali Shireh, director general of the agricultural development agency; and Challe Col Farah Waays Dulla, director general of the National Banana Agency, will devote themselves to SRC committee work.

Article 2: The posts vacated by them will be filled by the relevant deputy ministers and general managers of the concerned ministries and agencies.

Article 3: The decree is effective as of 2 October 1980 and will be published in the SDR Official Gazette.

CAPE VERDE

SOVIET REQUEST FOR NAVAL FACILTIES REPORTEDLY REFUSED

LD250126 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 0000 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Cape Verde has said no to the use of its archipelago by the Soviet Navy. According to a Western diplomatic source in Bissau, the Democratic Republic of Cape Verde has turned down Soviet requests for naval facilities in the Cape Verde archipelago. Two different versions of the Kremlin's specific requests mention facilities at Sao Vicente harbor or the actual building of a naval base.

For the past few years, the USSR has been asking Cape Verdean authorities for access to a port in Cape Verdean territory to make up for the loss by the Soviet navy of its previous naval facilities in Conakry. Cape Verde's reply to the Soviet approaches, however, has always been the same, namely a categoric no.

The reasons behind Cape Verde's attitude are, on the one hand, the recognition by the country's leaders of the need to preserve the present external image of their country, since a concession of the kind sought by the USSR might place in jeopardy the confidence expressed by those Western countries which have economically assisted this young African republica, and, on the other hand, its wish to maintain its stand of strict nonalignment and to keep out of any conflicts between the two superpowers.

GUINEA-BISSAU

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH CUBA

FL241217 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Guinea-Bissau and Cuba have signed a new cooperation protocol which basically includes the areas of health, education and fishing, and which doubles the level of bilateral cooperation. The agreement was signed in Bissau by (Manuel Boal), general secretary to Guinea-Bissau's commissioner of health, and by Paul Donas Santana, vice president of Cuba's State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

The approval of the agreement concludes the third session of the intergovernmental commission for cooperation during which plans were drawn up for future exchanges in the areas of culture and trade.

UPPER VOLTA

TEACHERS STRIKE CONTINUES; NO SOLUTION FOUND

AB250808 Paris AFP in French 0612 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] Ouagadougou 25 Oct (AFP)--The strike by teachers of the Upper Voltan public primary schools, which was started by the National Union of African Teachers of Upper Volta (SNEAHV) on 1 October, has entered its 4th week, and no solution to the crisis seems to have been found. Negotiations do not seem to have been interrupted, but both sides--the unions as well as the government--are preparing for a sort of war of attrition.

At the end of a meeting at the Quagadougou Labor Exchange on Thursday evening, the four central unions (the National Confederation of Voltan Workers, the Voltan Trade Union Confederation, the Voltan Organization of Free Trade Unions, and the Voltan Workers Trade Union Federation) on Friday morning jointly issued notification of a general warning strike on 4 and 5 November. The four central unions stated that they are ready for an unlimited action if after these 2 days of protest the crisis of the public primary school teachers is not resolved. In other developments, after a meeting with many teachers of the capital in Quagadougou on Thursday, the Voltan Democratic Party--the Upper Volta section of the African Democratic Rally (PDV-RDA), the majority party in the National Assembly--invited its teaching militants to reopen classes all over the country.

MOZAMBIQUE

DEFENSE TALKS HELD WITH ZIMBABWE OFFICIALS

LD241250 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 24 Oct 80 EA

[Text] Talks between defense and security delegations from Mozambique and Zimbabwe, led respectively by FPLM [Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique] Political Commissar Armando Guebuza and Zimbabwe Minister of State Emerson Munangagwa, were held in Maputo yesterday. Also present in the talks on the side of the Mozambique delegation was Security Minister Jacinto Veloso and other defense and security officials. The talks were held within the framework of regular consultations between the two countries' delegations. The Zimbabwe delegation left for home yesterday.

Addressing the news media, FPLM Political Commissar Armando Guebuza said that in the talks the two delegations had examined in-depth questions connected with the defense and security of the two countries and held similar points of view.

Zimbabwe Minister of State Emerson Munangagwa said that any aggression against our country would be considered by his government as an aggression against Zimbabwe. He also expressed his satisfaction with the progress already achieved in the field of defense and security cooperation between the two countries.

SOUTH AFRICA

R.F. BOTHA, DEPARTING UN OFFICIAL DISCUSS STATUS OF TALKS

LD262152 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] There is a possibility of UN Security Council action against South Africa soon should the latest round of negotiations on South-West Africa prove to have failed. This is the view of both the South African foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, and the UN deputy secretary general, Mr Brian Urquhart, only days before Dr Waldheim is to report to the Security Council on the outcome of last week's negotiations in Pretoria.

In an interview with radio RSA [Radio South Africa], Mr Botha said he believed that although no substantive progress had been made in the talks in the sense that the implementation of the settlement plan was any clearer, he believed there could be some progress. Mr Botha said, however, much would depend on how Mr Urquhart's report was regarded by the parties involved in the settlement dispute. Should they decided that South Africa was stalling, then there could be a break in the present negotiations leading to punitive measures which could have serious implications.

Mr Botha said if South Africa allowed the introduction of a norm that political power could be gained through terror and intimidation, the consequences would be fatal. The foreign minister said that the United Nations' assurance that it would exercise impartiality at the time of implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 was not good enough, and it proved that there was no impartiality at present. Mr Botha said the internal parties in South-West Africa would not accept such vague reassurances, and the South African Government was led by their views. He said that if the United Nations was interested in an objective solution to the problem it should introduce the principle of giving all parties in the territory an equal chance.

Also interviewed by radio RSA, Mr Urquhart said that as far as the United Nations was concerned the talks on South-West Africa were part of an endless process which would stop only when there had been a successful conclusion to the process. Mr Urquhart said he would not accuse South Africa of employing stalling tactics. He believed the main difficulty facing South Africa was the many diverse opinions in both South Africa and South-West Africa on the right course to adopt. Mr Urquhart admitted that the issue of impartiality was a problem, and added that the problem had been before the United Nations for 34 years. He denied that during the negotiations in Pretoria he had had the leverage to exercise pressure against South Africa in the form of sanctions threats.

Urquhart News Conference

LD252322 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] A mission from the United Nations has returned to New York after talks with the South African Government on the future of South-West Africa. Before the mission's departure from Jan Smuts Airport it had a friendly round of talks with the South African director general of foreign affairs, Dr Brand Fourie.

At a news conference in Pretoria earlier, the leader of the mission, Mr Brian Urquhart, said it was still too early to determine how successful the talks on the independence of South-West Africa had been and how much real progress had been made. Mr Urquhart said the United Nations would, nevertheless, go ahead with its attempts to find a peaceful solution to the question of South-West Africa. He said a report would be made to the secretary general, Dr Waldheim, as soon as possible. Black states in southern Africa and the Western contact group on South-West Africa would also be briefed. Mr Uruqhart said the Security Council would also have to be briefed on developments. He said that to a large extent the talks of the past week in Pretoria had centered on the question of a date for the implementation of resolution 435. He said no specific date had been set for independence because of a decision still had to be made on the desirability of fixing a date. However, his delegation believed that it was essential that the independence progress and process for South-West Africa should be put into operation as soon as possible.

Referring to the alleged UN prejudice in favor of SWAPO, Mr Urquhart said his delegation had done everything in its power to emphasize the world body's impartiality. He said the UN delegation could not be expected to do much in respect of impartiality.

FORMAL TRADE AGREEMENT WITH ZIMBABWE SIGNED

LD241256 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] South Africa and Zimbabwe have concluded a formal trade agreement which will come into effect immediately. The agreement was published today in the South African GOVERNMENT GAZETTE after being signed by the Zimbabwean secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Mudenge, earlier this month, and by the South African director general for foreign affairs, Dr Brand Fourie, on 22 September.

In terms of the agreement, each country will appoint a trade representative to see to trade interests and to lend consular aid to citizens of the two countries. The representatives will enjoy the immunity applied internationally. Each mission will consist of not more than 12 people.